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Magazine

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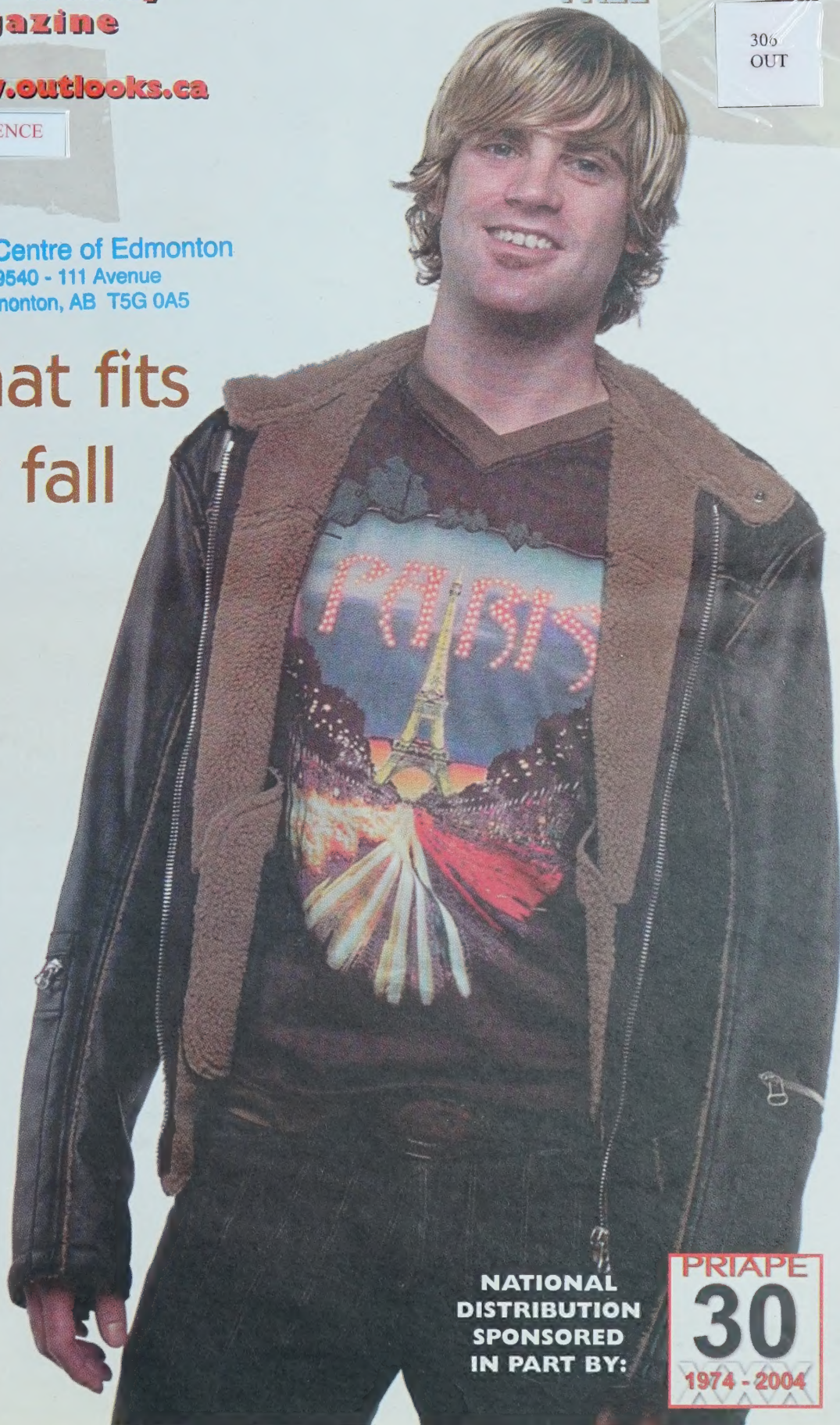
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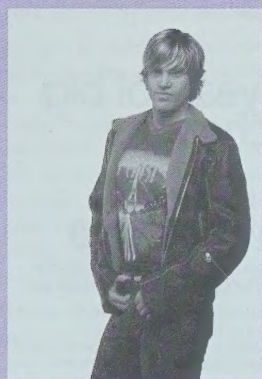
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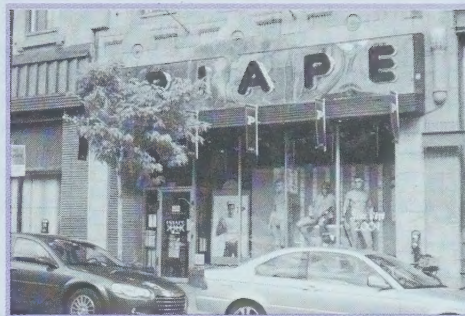
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On The Cover:
Kevin wears a shearling coat by Hugo Boss Orange Label, a "Paris" T-shirt and crushed velvet pinstripe pants by D & G and a Hugo Boss Orange Label belt, all from Henry on 4th in Calgary. Kevin was photographed at Urban Sky Studio by David Crosson

what's where



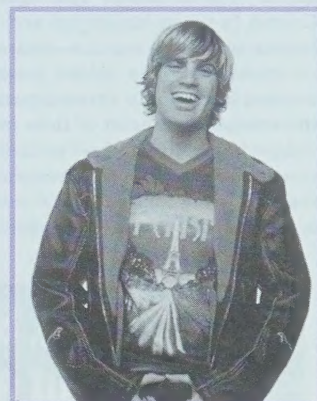
MAKING THE MILESTONE

Three decades ago, a Canadian institution came into being—at a time when many thought gay people belonged in them. Lino DiNallo talks to Priape owner Bernard Rousseau about the good—and bad—old days.

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THE FALL FORECAST

With Indian Summer officially over, it's time to turn your attention to "the what and the wear" of the next two seasons. Lincoln Phillip divides that two by five, with top picks in trends and product.



EDMONTON BRINGS IT ON

Cheerleading is busting out all over—and nowhere as vibrant as in Alberta's capital city. Outlooks contributor David King spells out the skinny on the Edmonton Pride Squad

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Outlooks,

Okay, what on earth is "marshmallow creme" and where do you get it? I tried to make the pumpkin fudge from the recipe that was in your October issue and couldn't find/figure out that one ingredient. Instead of it, I used marshmallows and a bit of corn syrup, but all I got was a runny mess (it was good on ice cream, I'll give it that). So, again, what is it and where do you get it? I'm not "beaten" yet and want to give the fudge another try.

Chris P.

Calgary

The Editor Responds:

Marshmallow creme—also known as marshmallow fluff—is found in most groceries near the popcorn and/or sundae toppings, rarely ever near the actual marshmallows (go figure). Kraft makes one called Marshmallow Creme (a seven-ounce jar) and Durkee makes one called Marshmallow Fluff (seven-and-a-half ounces—bear this extra half-ounce in mind for the recipe we provided). The spiced pumpkin fudge we tested for the October issue worked just fine on three separate occasions, although I'd suggest preparing the creme/fluff ahead of time in a bowl as it can be a chore getting it out of the jar before the fudge "seizes". I think the problem with your batch is that you added corn syrup to marshmallows, which are made of corn syrup, hence the extra-soft consistency of your candy. I do encourage you to try the recipe again with the proper ingredients, as it was a big hit with all who tried it.

Dear Outlooks:

The Alberta Tories have been in power for thirty-three years, and have consistently attacked our community and opposed equality for GLBT people. Despite all this, we still managed to allow the Tories to sweep Calgary in the last vote. Even Calgary Buffalo, purported to have the highest percentage of our community, elected a Conservative.

I hope we can all rally around the Liberal party this time, and unite behind one candidate. I don't like everything about the Alberta Liberals, but they are the only ones with a realistic chance of unseating the Conservatives. More importantly, we need to make sure we show up at the polls on election day and cast a ballot.

There is a sizable GLBT community in Alberta. If we can concentrate our voting power in this election, we will have a greater chance to put a dent in the Klein dictatorship.

Sincerely,

K. Erickson

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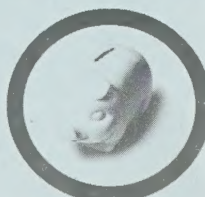
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Courting equality

By Roy Heale



As the new millennium began in 2000, so too did a journey towards real equality for Canada's GLBT community. Last month, the latest step along the route was at the Supreme Court in Ottawa, when the Attorney General of Canada and an unprecedented twenty-seven intervenors appeared before the justices as they heard arguments on the historical reference of the federal government's equal marriage legislation. It was a long way from August 21st, 2000, when Michael Hendricks and René Lebeouf commenced their legal challenge in the Quebec Superior Court for the right to marry.

In this four-year time span, much has occurred in the Supreme Courts of Quebec, Ontario, British Columbia, Manitoba, Nova Scotia and the Yukon—all favourable rulings that our Constitution protects the rights of same-sex couples to be legally married.

Now, the Supreme Court justices will have to answer the questions before them and give their wise replies to

the Canadian government. These answers are expected to take anywhere from three to eighteen months to be formulated, so it's hard to predict if Paul Martin's minority government will be dealing with this issue, particularly given the time frame involved. However, we can predict that when this goes to a vote in the House of Commons, it will be a very contentious issue.

Fortunately, the majority of the intervenors were for same-sex marriages and, not surprisingly, the ten against the new marriage act were mostly religious groups and associations. It should be noted that the Attorney General of Alberta was the only provincial government intervenor arguing against same-sex marriages. Given this fact, members of the community and Alberta will likely have to deal with Ralph Klein's use of the "notwithstanding" clause, so it is important to make your opinion known in the upcoming provincial election.

The two days of hearings provided an insight into what will occur if this legislation makes it all the way to a parliamentary vote. For example, the Seventh Day Adventists, represented by a Mr. Bussey, expressed their view that religious believers should be able to refuse to serve GLBT customers! Perhaps they would like us all to be branded with a triangle on our foreheads so they know who to segregate and refuse. The representative for Senator Cools and MP Roger Galloway argued that equal marriage requires a constitutional amendment—a very complicated process—and sounded much like he had been briefed by President Bush's advisers. Speaking of the states, Focus on the Family, a U.S.-based organization, has also begun a 1.5 million dollar ad campaign against equal marriage to boot.

On a more positive note, the Metropolitan Community Church of Toronto pointed out that it is no longer legitimate for government to enforce majoritarian religious beliefs on all Canadians. As you can imagine, these two full days worth of arguments revealed much about the challenges that still lie ahead for us all.

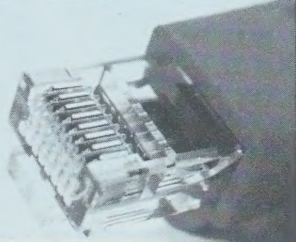
In the midst of this great debate, the state of New York made a surprise announcement that it will recognize Canadian same-sex marriages and treat them as equal to any others for the purpose of retirement benefits and obligations. Now, residents of New York State have a very good reason to head to Ontario for their weddings. Look out Niagara Falls: gay weddings and honeymoons are about to flood your community!

Now is the time for action, to ensure that equality rules; contact your MP by e-mail, letter or telephone to express your views before any vote in the House of

Commons takes place. Visit the Egale website to find out how to sign their petition or donate money to help fight this cause. Discuss the issue with your family and friends and encourage their support. This is not the time to sit on the sidelines. Rest assured that the religious coalitions will be organized and aggressive, so we need to be prepared. And remember, whether or not marriage is important to you, the choice should be available to all.

To do your part, visit www.egale.ca and www.equal-marriage.ca

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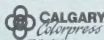


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Bedfellow bingo

By John Coulbourn

When it comes to supporting the whole notion of the separation of church and state, I've never really needed a lot of convincing. After all, if God had wanted to get into the picaresque world of politics, there would surely have been a whole commandment devoted specifically to the distribution of sponsorship funds. Lately, however, I'm starting to have sober second thoughts on the subject.

I'm still not prepared to see a special seat for the clergy in our House of Commons or anything as extreme as that, I hasten to add. But in the wake of recent decisions and recommendations within the international communion of the Anglican Church, I'm starting to think that the *only* way to keep the 'civil' in 'civilization' is to bind all of our churchmen to all of our politicians with bonds of steel (very heavy steel, preferably anchored in concrete), and then throw the whole lot in the nearest river and walk away. Sure, it's likely to muck up our water for awhile, but scum on the pond is a small price to pay for ending the madness.

Not only would we free ourselves of the ludicrous posturing that is going on within the international Anglican community, heretofore considered one of the more reasonable voices within the religious world, we'd free ourselves of the ongoing idiocy in Ottawa as well, idiocy that seems designed solely for the purpose of driving us all stark raving mad.

Surely, for instance, there is nothing looper in the Anglicans' solution to their problems with sex and sexuality than there is in Paul Martin's foot-dragging on the whole subject of same-sex marriage. Short of engraving it on stone tablets, the Canadian electorate seems to have done everything we can to send our PM the message, but he's just not getting it. Or getting on with it.

Worse, there seems to be no road to Damascus at hand where Paul might be hit with the blinding vision that anyone who opposes same-sex marriage has already parked his vote elsewhere—and all Martin is accomplishing with his continued vacillation is the alienation of people who have already voted for him.

Fortunately for Martin, his principal (but apparently far from principled) opponent on the left seems to have lost no time at all in sniffing out his thirty pieces of silver—but, hey, this is set in Ottawa, after all. In fact, Parliament wasn't even in session before the NDP's Jack Layton was indulging in heated political frothing with Messrs. Harper and Duceppe, proving conclusively that, while politics have always made for strange bedfellows, it very rarely makes for deep insight amongst its practitioners.

If Jack were the reflective kind, he would have realized that the only thing that earned him his seat (the one he holds, however tenuously, not the one he seems so eager to sell to the highest bidder) is the fact he was running against a Liberal incumbent with a unique talent for shooing off his mouth and hitting himself in the foot.

So, to put things plainly: As one of your constituents, Jack, let me assure you I voted for you not because I think you're a political savant, but rather because you weren't Dennis Mills. And Dennis Mills was a loudmouth boor who was opposed to same-sex marriage, despite the fact that he represented a riding that's rapidly moving into a position to give Toronto's Church Street a run for its money as the capital of the city's fruit belt. I most definitely did not vote for you so you could go to Ottawa and indulge in some same-sex bonding with louts like Harper—and rest assured if you continue in your preoccupation with right-wing rough trade, my next vote is going to any Liberal with a pulse and an IQ larger than his or her collar-size, despite the stench coming off the Liberal party leader.

And lest we fall into complacency by assuming that political idiocy is confined to Ottawa, we've always got Ralph Klein, who never seems to tire of proving just how deep shallowness can run. Surely never deeper, however, than when the Alberta premier shot off his mouth at the First Ministers' Conference on Health Care, saying his leadership style was to watch a parade long enough to figure out which way it was going and then get in front of it.

All of which explains a lot—not the least of which, unfortunately, is the fact that, even in the Bible, wise men come from the East. In keeping with the Anglican vision of things, I have to say I'm sorry, but I think they are all idiots. ▼

John Coulbourn is a native Albertan who lived for many years in Calgary. He now makes his home in Toronto, where he covers performing arts for the Toronto Sun.

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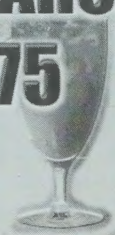
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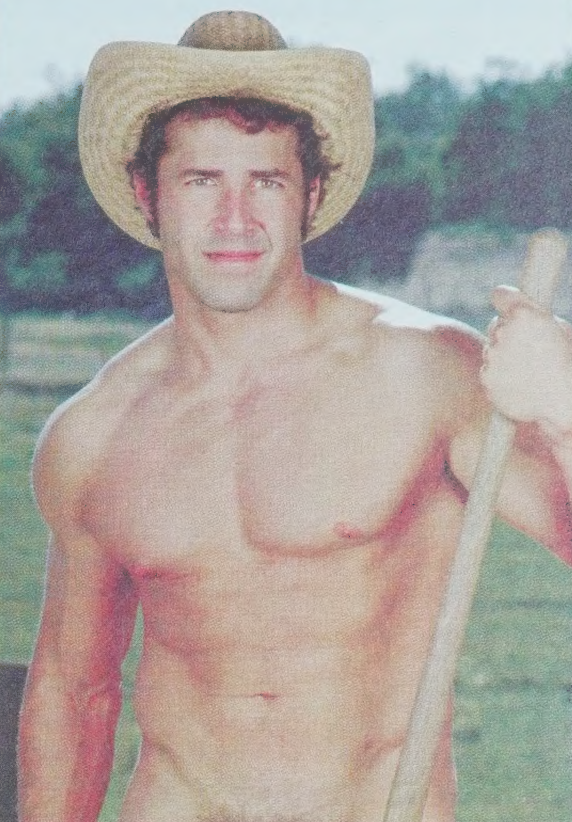
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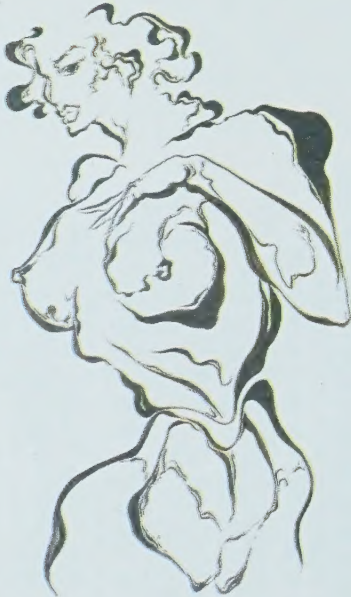
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Wayne Sommersell is a thirty-seven-year-old, self-taught artist originally from Winnipeg, Manitoba. He moved to Toronto in July of this year hoping to expose his art to a bigger audience. In 1995, Mr. Sommersell executed his first serious painting in acrylic, and since then has completed works of all sizes in that medium as well as ink, chalk, pastel and watercolour. To view more of his art, please visit the website: www.mts.net/~mersell.



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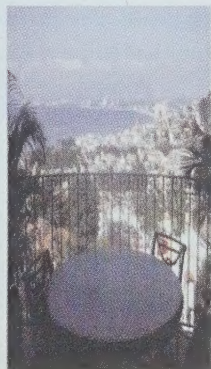
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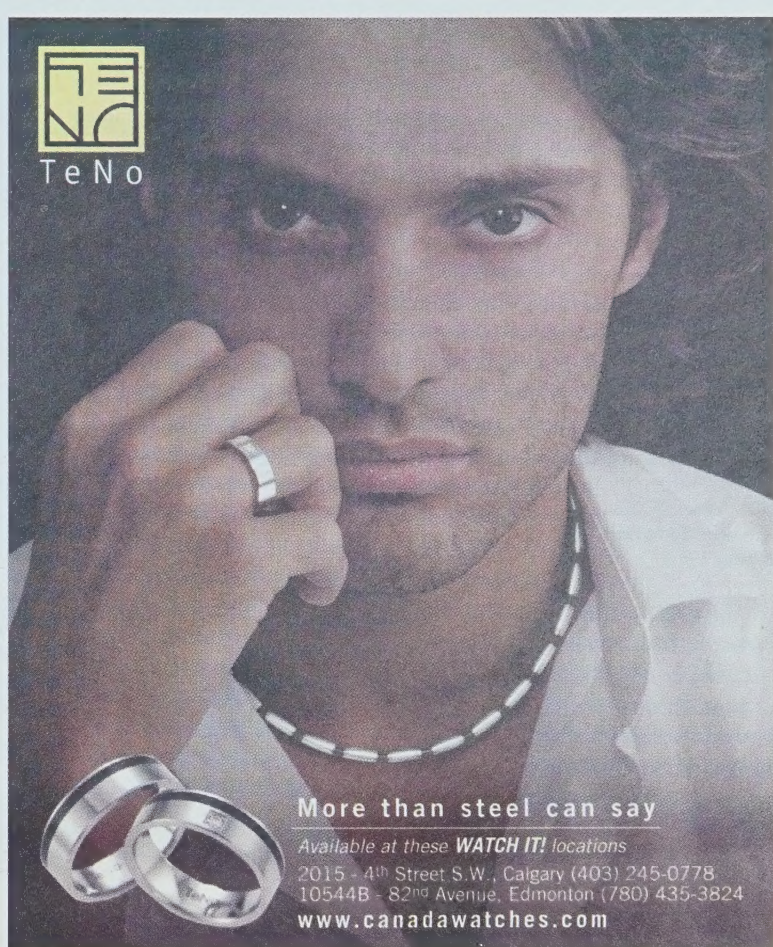


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Priape: making it grow for 30 years

By Lino DiNallo

It's 5:30 p.m. on your average Thursday evening in Toronto. While moms are hopping on the Go Train to hit the supermarket and feed their kids instant rice, I'm in Priape—where a businessman is picking up a bottle of Z-Best “leather cleaner” and a pair of diesel-dykes peruses the dildos. Welcome to Canada's general store of gayness. It began as a sex shop, but like everything gay, the sex is part of the community and there's no stigma around it: no blacked-out windows or sleazy clerks—the place actually feels quite jovial and the staff bop along to dance music while they ring up sales. And, at least in Toronto, this is Scene Central—where you buy tickets for the happening-est parties and pick up the local rags and fliers. Whether you need to gussy up for a circuit party, dungeon party or martini party, you'll find your outfit here, because the selection ranges from skanky daisy dukes to full leather regalia.

On November 11, Priape celebrates their thirtieth anniversary. Launched in Montréal, Priape now has three stores, the newest being in Calgary. Priape President Bernard Rousseau took some time one evening to talk about the company's history and what the future holds.

Outlooks: Tell me about Priape; when you first opened, what did you sell?

Rousseau: A lot less back then. But at the same time, we weren't exclusively gay. We had stuff for both men and women, straight or gay. There was lingerie, sex magazines and stories...and always a gay section, since all three of us who started it were gay.

Outlooks: How discrete was the gay section?

Rousseau: I wouldn't say it was discrete, just very small. We had a minimum amount of stock because of lack of money. But as it sold, we bought more stock. This was long before videos...we had mainly magazines and stories.

Outlooks: You've moved around in Montréal...

Rousseau: Yes, the first location was on Maisonneuve, but it was only open one winter—it was freezing! Then we found a location on St Catherine Street and moved there in the spring of '75. It was perfect. We started getting very successful very quickly. Then, in September, there was a fire.

Outlooks: Of that same year?

Rousseau: Same year. That was awful, of course. Three of us were there. Robert Duchaine, the founder of the store, along with Claude Leblanc. I was just helping out as Robert's lover. My God, it was terrible. We had no money...very little insurance. But then we got money from our relatives and also some financing...at huge interest rates of course. We finally reopened on December 8. After we re-opened things went well again. We started selling porn under the table—it was still illegal back then. We were always playing hide and seek with Montréal's morality police. In 1976, I quit my full-time job and became Priape's first employee. And in 1979, I became a partner—that's when we really started pursuing the gay market. We got rid of the lingerie and printed posters advertising us as the “gay sex shop” for the first time.

Outlooks: How comfortable was the gay scene back then?

Rousseau: Many people came in wearing sunglasses and trench coats. A lot of customers were in the closet. They'd tell me they were afraid to come to the store because it was “gay only”.

Outlooks: Did you ever have any attacks or vandalism?

Rousseau: Only when we went too far with the window displays. They'd spit on it. We featured a nurse in drag giving an enema, but it was an enema promotion. And we had Santa Claus with his ass hanging out once. People really didn't like that either. Overall, though, in East Montréal we never had any problems with the neighbourhood. It was amazing. There was a lot of immediate acceptance.

Outlooks: Except for the windows. But no major hate crimes?

Rousseau: No.

Outlooks: Did you ever think you were going to shut down?

Rousseau: The fire that first year really devastated us. We didn't think we were going to reopen. But we hired some good staff over the years, like Nelson, a guy from Alberta who loved the French culture so he moved to Quebec. He really helped Priape move forward and became a manager. He became my best friend, too.

Outlooks: So, what came next?

Rousseau: We used to import leather and stuff up from New York. I remember coming

across the border with garbage bags full of Levi's 501s. Not from Levi's directly, because they wouldn't sell to us, but from a boutique we'd made special arrangements with. We were actually the first store in Montréal to sell Levi's...it sounds so silly now. So, we decided to open our own leather shop in 1979-1980. Because of the exchange rates, we were able to offer some great prices to our customers. Also in 1980,

although not with Priape, I helped produce Montréal's first gay cinema week with three other friends. This led to Cinema de Village in 1984. It was supposed to be movies for an over-eighteen audience, but when we realized a few theatres in Montréal were showing straight porn we figured: why not gay porn? So, we went back to New York and found our first 16mm gay porn to show. Montréal's gay village actually developed around Cinema de Village. Every time another merchant opened, their name ended in “de Village”. The press began writing headlines about gays flocking to the East Side. And that's how the village started.

Outlooks: What happened to the Cinema?

Rousseau: That went well for ten years; the community flourished around it but with the advent of VCRs and DVDs it didn't seem feasible to do it anymore. Although, as the area flourished, we bought a building to create a gay commercial centre for ourselves in 1986. That burned down as well! [Laughs] Two fires! That's when we started having problems and infighting with the partners. When I saw another place for rent, I grabbed it again and we've been here since 1987.

Outlooks: What's next for Bernard? Any plans to retire?

Rousseau: [Laughs] I wish I could but it's so busy and there's so much to do. It's not easy, but I've started taking longer vacations—a month at a time now. After thirty years, I think I'm able to do that.

Outlooks: Whatever happened to Robert and Claude?

Rousseau: Claude was bought out in 1993...it's a long story. Robert died two years ago of AIDS.

Outlooks: I'm sorry to hear that.

Rousseau: We lost a lot of employees to AIDS over the years. Probably twenty...at least twenty staff members.

Outlooks: Were you still lovers?

Rousseau: Not any more. Just friends.

Outlooks: When did your Toronto and Calgary stores open?

Rousseau: I opened Toronto in March of '93—by this point I was flying solo. Calgary celebrated their first anniversary this past July.

Outlooks: Congratulations on that. How's Calgary doing?

Rousseau: Calgary's not easy. Even with communicating with computers and the Internet, the distance makes it difficult to instill the spirit of Priape.

Outlooks: How about priape.com? How's that doing?

Rousseau: Priape.com started in 1996. It's going really well.

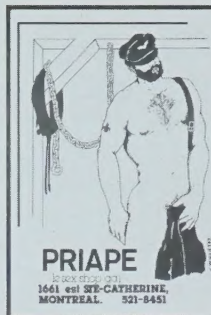
Outlooks: Who shops online?

Rousseau: Our sales are seventy-five percent Canadian, with people from as far away as France and Belgium.

Outlooks: What can we look forward to next from Priape?

Rousseau: We're hoping to launch priape.tv, a video-on demand service, before Christmas. And, of course, Vancouver's always on the back burner.

Lino DiNallo is an advertising copywriter newly based in Toronto. He is not, however, a pyromaniac.

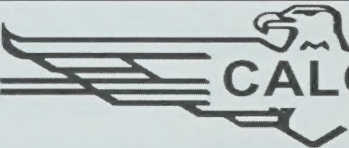


PRIAPE
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Sketching out the past:
Priape ads from 1979
(left) and 1982 (right)



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Is That Like Being a 'Nielson Family'?

On hand to support Josh (and an absent Andy) with the small screen debut was a dedicated number of their fans and friends... the initial airing took place at 1:30 in the morning!

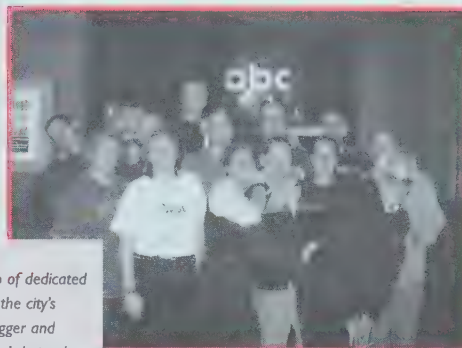
O, Brother, Where Art Thou?

Apparently the only place Josh could find brother Andy was in the newspaper clipping on the wall behind him—Andy was too young to attend the official launch event in a licensed premises!



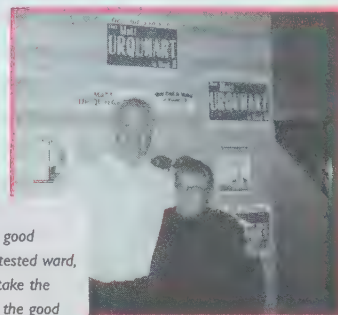
All A Board

Pride Calgary's latest group of dedicated individuals, all set to make the city's annual Pride celebration bigger and better than ever before. Let's hope the weather holds up this time 'round!



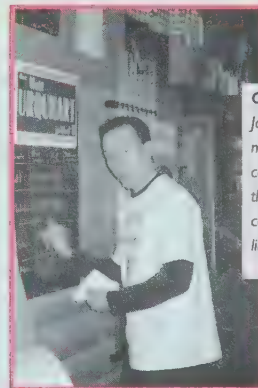
MATT URQUHART

MONEY-PENNIES



Political Party

Even though he had a good showing in a hotly contested ward, Matt Urquhart didn't take the aldermanic seat. Ever the good sport, he made a point of thanking all those who helped him, including Money-Pennies proprietress Lorrie Murphy, who hosted his election night party.



Chalk-a-holic

Josh Rimer, right-hand man of the Urquhart campaign, keeps tally of the reporting polls as they come in. Think that boy likes the camera?!

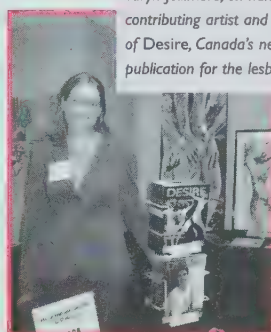
Planning an event in Calgary?
Contact Cop at (403) 228-1157 and he'll see about covering it in Out & About.
Photos By: Outlooks Staff

GLCSA IMPRESSIONS
THE WESTMORELAND



We're Kind Of Like Easels!

Two of the people behind the art: GLCSA Program Director Celina Dolan and Sean Alley, of the Choices program.

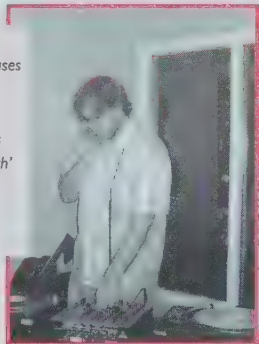


Desire-able Position

Taryn Jollimore, on hand as both a contributing artist and a representative of Desire, Canada's newest publication for the lesbian community.

Artist At Work

DJ Jared Keen focuses on the task at hand—namely keeping the party's energy level on 'high' with his signature spinning.



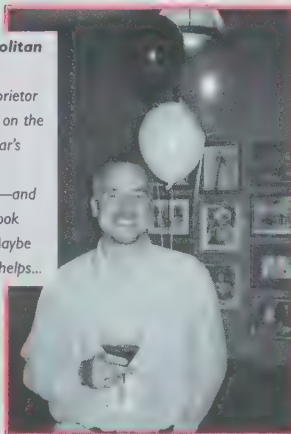
Being Neighbourly

November cover model Kevin and gal-pal Tristyn popped upstairs from their usual haunt, Deva Dave Salon (an event sponsor), to check out the proceedings. Looks like they approve!

EIGHTH ANNIVERSARY
THE BACKLOT

A Cosmopolitan Affair

Backlot proprietor Ken Schultz on the eve of the bar's eighth anniversary—and he doesn't look stressed! Maybe the libation helps...



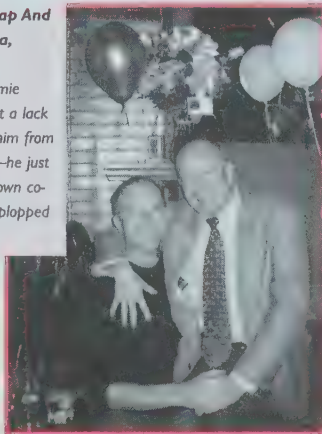
Oh, Yes, Dear—You Are Much Prettier!

Geoff slips out from behind his bar, apparently taking time to "stop and smell the roses".



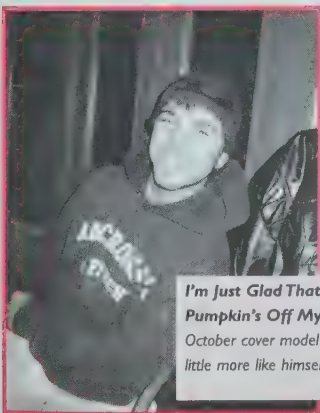
Get Off My Lap And Wait For Santa, Honey!

Fab fleuriste Jamie Martyn didn't let a lack of seating stop him from resting his legs—he just pulled up Boyztown co-owner Ken and plopped himself down.



I'm Just Glad That #%*@ing Pumpkin's Off My Head!

October cover model Josh, looking a little more like himself.



A Window

By Zachary MacKenzie, First Runner Up

I smiled grimly as his mother gave the eulogy. I was trying not to hate her or the rest of them, but picturing them all burning in Hell made me feel better. They looked bored. I could tell they were disappointed that Marco hadn't died in some tragically homosexual way. He didn't have AIDS, he wasn't murdered by homophobic psychos and he didn't kill himself in some big drama queen gesture. He just died, in an accident, the way people do. His death wasn't enough of a spectacle for these people; they didn't really care, and I hated them for it. They were just here to show off their Barbie funeral fashions. Sounds harsh, but it's true. I never realized what shitty friends we had, until the chips were down or whatever that saying is. Even his mother was disappointed that in death Marco hadn't provided her with one last cause to champion in front of all her society whores.

I knew over the next few days she'd invite me to lunch at the country club or some high profile restaurant and offer me empty words of consolation so everyone who mattered could see her dutifully consoling her dead son's lover before she sent me off and never talked to me again. Suited me just fine. At least I'd get a free meal out of the bitch. And the never seeing her again would be a bonus.

Her eulogy went on for quite a while; she loved to hear herself talk. I tuned her out pretty quickly. The man she was talking about wasn't the man I loved, just some imaginary projection of who she wanted her son to be.

After the service I shook people's hands and let myself be hugged by these plastic doll people. I kept a neutral expression which I'm sure everyone took for numbness. I was actually trying to keep from laughing at the thought of all their heads exploding. Every detail formed perfectly in my mind, their heads just spontaneously exploding, brains plastering everything. It was a joke I would have shared with Marco. He would have called me a sick bastard but he would have laughed and loved me for it. I hated all this mourning shit. I guess it was necessary, but this wasn't how I wanted to remember or honour the man who had brought so much joy to my life. I was glad to be done with it. No one spoke to me once we left the church, it was as though some chore had been completed and they were no longer obligated to pay attention to me. Marco's mother patted me on

the shoulder where everyone could see and gave me a prim and proper one-armed hug, then walked away without a word.

I was right, of course. She called me up a couple days later and invited me to brunch at the club. I went and played the part, let her do most of the talking. Well, all of it really. She really did love to hear herself talk. About halfway through the meal, she excused herself to powder her nose. She had invested a fair amount of money in her nose and she liked to protect her investments. Marco had been an investment, and I, to a lesser extent. But Marco wasn't yielding any returns anymore and nor would I, with Marco gone.

As I thought about this, a woman came running up, six or seven months pregnant. She took hold of my arm and said, "Come on, let's go." She had an urgent tone to her voice.

"Excuse me?" I looked up at her.

"You look like you need to get out of here and I definitely need to get out of here, so come with me." It was as convincing an argument as I needed. I stood up and threw my napkin on the table. At the same time, Marco's mother returned.

"What's going on?"

"Thanks for the brunch, Mom," (she hated that) "but..."

"Rosie."

"Rosie and I need to get out of here." Rosie was looking around nervously.

"Oh, well if you have to..." She reached into her purse and pulled out a cheque. "I want you to have this."

I didn't care if it was in poor taste; I looked at the cheque. It was for a hundred dollars. I wasn't poor, even before Marco died, and he had left me everything. This was like a bad joke. I wanted to laugh in her face. Before I could, Rosie threw up on her shoes.

"We really have to go," I said, dropping the cheque in the vomit and pulling Rosie along by the arm.

A man stood up across the room and called out, "Rosie, where are you going?"

We ran out to the parking lot and I was glad that I never used valets. We jumped into my car and I peeled out onto the road. I pulled some napkins from the glove compartment and handed her the bottle of water I kept in the console.

"Thank you," she said between wiping her mouth and rinsing it out. "I'm sorry about that woman."

continued opposite

Ten Days of Small Change...Ten Years of Big Changes

The "Piggy Party" is back! Small Change...Big Changes has announced its tenth anniversary campaign, themed Ten Days of Small Change...Ten Years of Big Changes. This year the committee is taking a new approach: a ten-day stretch between the Launch and the Gala events. Here's the schedule:

Launch: Wednesday, November 10, from 5 until 8 p. m.

Celebration and Silent Auction: Friday, November 19, 7p. m. to midnight

Both events will take place at the new Art Central-Calgary's newest visual arts venue-located at the corner of Seventh Avenue and Centre Street SW (kitty corner to the Hyatt Hotel).

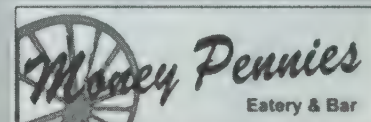
Piggy banks cost \$25 and patrons are asked to bring their piggy bank full of change to the celebration evening where they will provide admission to an evening of mingling with friends, great food, music and the famous Small Change Silent Auction.

According to 2004 Campaign Chairman Wade Cuthbertson, "the need to raise funds for the Southern Alberta Clinic has never been greater. Unfortunately, an increasing incidence of HIV infection continues to plague both the gay and heterosexual communities. This year's fundraising efforts will be directed towards replenishing the Small Change...Big Changes Patient Needs Funds at the Clinic. These funds are used to assist individuals and families affected with HIV/AIDS in situations where private or public funding is not available to them."

Piggy banks may be obtained at the Launch on November 10 or at Money Pennies, Priape or the Southern Alberta Clinic. For additional information or assistance please contact Shannon Gerla at the Calgary Health Trust-943-0611 or sgerla@thetrust.ca. See you at the Piggy Party!

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"Don't apologize; I can't think of a better way to say good-bye to my ex-mother-in-law."

"Good. I wasn't really sorry. Are you and your wife getting divorced?"

"No, my husband was killed recently."

"I'm sorry."

"Thanks," I said, blinking away a couple tears. "What's your story? That guy seemed surprised you were leaving."

"He's in for a lot of surprises in the near future."

"He your husband?"

"Not yet."

"Are you leaving him?" She was silent for a time, staring out at the green fields as we drove past.

"No," she replied after a while. "He has some things to learn, but I love him. Mostly he needs to learn that I'm not going to be some trophy wife like the bimbos most of his friends marry. And that getting me knocked up doesn't give him ownership rights over me."

I smiled. "Yeah, it took me a while to pull the silver spoon out of Marco's mouth, but it was worth it."

"So how could he be your husband, since gay marriage isn't legal here? Sorry, that was probably insensitive of me."

"Don't worry about it." I liked her directness. Our friends never said anything unless they were sure everyone would agree with them. "The words don't—didn't matter to us. Husband, life partner, life mate, blah, blah, blah. We didn't even have any kind of commitment ceremony, or whatever the hell you want to call it. If we had, Marco's mother would have taken over and turned it into a big circus. Wasn't worth the bother. It sounds corny but we were married where it counted, in our hearts."

"Sounds beautiful to me," she said. We spent the next part of the drive in silence. She took my hand at one point and simply held it. It felt like the most natural thing in the world.

For the first time since Marco died I felt connected to another human being. It didn't really lessen the pain but now I actually felt like I wasn't going to drown in it. In that one small gesture, she had touched me in a way no one else had, probably because they hadn't

really tried. Suddenly I didn't want this ride to end, but I knew that when it did I would have my first true and real friend since I'd met Marco on that dark and stormy day eight years ago.

"We met in a park, on a Thursday," I said into the silence between us. "It was raining really hard that day and I was just standing around enjoying the storm. He came up and offered me his umbrella. I took it from him and did a dance with it, then handed it back and told him it was an umbrella Mary Poppins would be proud of. He asked if he could fall in love with me."

"Marco, eh?"

"Well, his name was Marc, but I called him Marco. Oh, my name's Paul, by the way. He called me Polo."

"I'm sorry, but that's so sickeningly cute, I would have thrown up."

We lapsed into silence again. Eventually I knew we'd have to go somewhere. "Where should I take you?"

Instead of answering, she said, "I want you to be my baby's godfather. And I'm going to name him Marco."

I almost lost control of the car. I swerved for a second, but quickly regained control. "Sorry," I mumbled. I didn't have the words for what she had said meant to me.

"OK, I need the godfather of my child to be a good driver."

"Marco? Even if it's a girl?"

"It's a boy. No ultrasound. I just know."

"I love you," I blurted out. Rosie smiled and squeezed my hand.

"I love you too."

And then something hit me that I never thought I would feel again.

Joy. ▼

Zachary MacKenzie's story is the first runner up in the RSVP short-short fiction competition. We would like to extend our sincere congratulations to Mr. MacKenzie and thank him for his submission.



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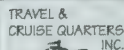
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CALGARY HERALD

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Volunteers speak volumes

By Peter Carlyle-Gordge

Thirty years ago, when most GLBT people still lived in the closet, gay and lesbian issues weren't on mass media radar screens and few public libraries even had books dealing with gay or lesbian themes. Longtime Winnipeg GLBT community activist Chris Vogel says not only were there no TV programs focused on the community's issues, but there were precious few books published on the subject, either, and public libraries weren't too interested in the subject. Enter the Rainbow Resource Centre library, housed in the gay and lesbian services centre on Winnipeg's Osborne Street. It started its own library in the fall of 1973 and is one of the few queer lending libraries on the continent.

"Back then we needed a very short shelf because there really wasn't a lot being published," recalls Vogel. "Today there has been an explosion of books and magazines published for the gay, lesbian and transgendered communities. Only about half of our books are on display and the collection keeps growing."

Not only has the library played a key role in informing and educating the GLBT community, it has become an important resource for many of their supporters in the "straight" world, including school teachers who have sent their charges in search of information for essays and projects on homosexuality.

Vogel says there used to be a similar library in Saskatoon, but all its books were donated to the University of Saskatchewan, which has a very healthy GLBT collection. He isn't aware of any other GLBT lending library on the prairies, though he says some community centres and clinics serving the community may have their own reference libraries.

Membership in the Winnipeg library costs \$15 for adults, with a fee of \$10 for students and those with low incomes. Books can be borrowed for three weeks and there is also a small collection of videos for loan. There is no specific budget for new acquisitions, but last year the centre was able to spend \$2,000 on new books, including ones aimed at gays and lesbians with children or those about to adopt children.

One book, *Love Makes A Family*, tells the story of the daily lives of queer and transgendered parents as they raise their children. The book grew originally from a photographic collection that toured the U.S. and Europe and it contains photographs as well as text. It is a very positive resource for affirming and understanding different family models.

Another important volume designed to counter the ravings of ultra-conservatives who say the GLBT community cannot be adequate parents is an essay collection: *Out Of The Ordinary: Essays On Growing Up With Gay, Lesbian And Transgendered Parents*.

Some of the funding for new acquisitions has come from gay positive outside groups such as the Fort Rouge Family Forward Coalition.

There are also children's books, which deal with issues pertaining to having gay or lesbian parents. Kim Allen, coordinator of the centre, says two men who were recently approved to adopt a child were thrilled to find that there are books helping them with parenting issues, as well as books written specifically to help young children understand the situation.

Allen says many of the books have been donated. Tax receipts can be issued to people giving books to the library and donations or bequests of money can be earmarked specifically for library purposes. Even shelving for the collections has been donated by various community groups.

"As our community changes, we try to respond by getting books that deal with some of the newer issues, such as gay marriage," she says. "We have an excellent section for gay men, one for lesbians and lots of good material for transgendered readers."

The library also has a solid GLBT fiction component, as well as books on health, psychology, counselling and emotional support for gays and lesbians. There are also books on seniors' issues, aimed at an ageing gay and lesbian population. Biographies and autobiographies also have a place—Boy George's autobiography is one example.

Besides books, the library has a collection of magazines, including *Outlooks*, *Perceptions*, *Xtra!* and the local publication, *Swerve*. It also subscribes to the academic quarterly *Journal of Homosexuality* and is the only place in the city, other than St. John's College at the University of Manitoba, where it can be found.

Lindsay Butt has been the volunteer library coordinator for the past four years and once spent eleven years working in a library setting. He says the library now has over 3,000 volumes. Sections include general non-fiction, lesbian non-fiction, gay fiction, lesbian fiction and non-fiction, youth and books for children.

"You could call it a very eclectic collection," Butt says. "We could use more donations in some areas, such as men's health and health in general. We also need more books aimed at youth, since the books we have—around fifty—are well used and becoming dog-eared."

Butt says the Prime Timers group at one time donated a new book each time one of its members passed on, with the library adding a nameplate to honour the departed member.

"We have a lot of periodicals but could use more," says longtime centre member Chris Vogel. "If people are doing serious research we keep an encyclopedia of homosexuality and can usually point them in the right direction. We also have access to the Internet at the centre, so they can follow up with a Web search as well."

He says they went through "almost a fad" in the 1990s when society was becoming more aware of gay issues and many high school teachers would assign projects on the subject to their class. "Often we had students showing up at the last minute when their assignment was due and we were able to help them," Vogel says. "The teacher would provide a letter of authorization for the project, but we sometimes had trouble getting books back, so now we phone them and the teachers won't give them a mark until all books have been returned."

He says the library has had a relatively trouble-free history, though a few years ago one gay man caused a media stink when he objected to them carrying a book called *Teardrops On My Drum*, an autobiography in two volumes.

"In volume one the English author described an incident when he was around age eleven and he had sex with a gay policeman," he recalls. "This complainant thought the author ought to have condemned the incident more than he did and so he wanted us to ban the book, but we didn't. Later he objected to some of our poetry books, but eventually he shut up and went away." ▼

Peter Carlyle-Gordge is a former Manitoba correspondent for Maclean's and The Financial Post. He has written for most major magazines and newspapers in Canada as well as broadcasting on the national and international networks of CBC Radio.



Lindsay Butt, volunteer coordinator for the Rainbow Resource Centre's library

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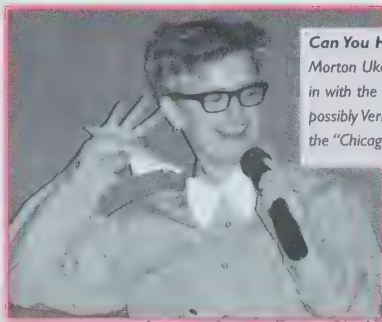
PLAY FOR KEEPS



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GENDER PLAY CABARET'S "CHICAGO BOUND"

GIO'S



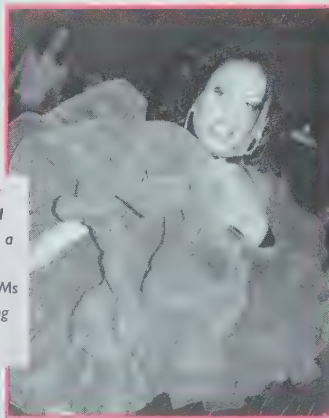
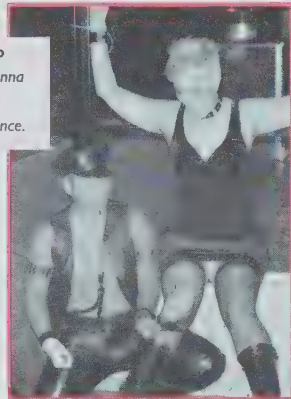
Can You Hear Me Now?
Morton Ukon Handel checks in with the crowd—and possibly Verizon—while hosting the "Chicago Bound" show.

And The Hanes Suck, Too
Carlos Las Vegas and wife Ionna Whipp do a little consumer testing of hose for the audience.

Planning an event in Winnipeg?
Contact Brent at (204) 789-9215 and he'll see about covering it in Out & About.
All Photos By: Brent Y.
Special thanks to Jay for his assistance with this spread

RETURN OF THE QUEEN: PAST & CURRENT MR & Ms Gio's

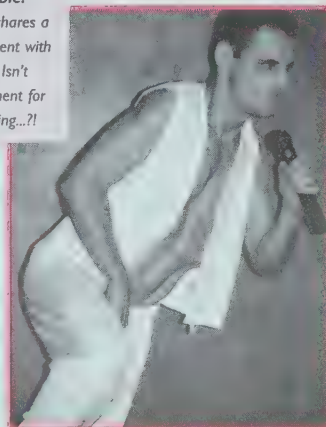
GIO'S



Willyssa And The Big Red Rosebud
Warning: this is not a children's story, just the very charming Ms Thunderpuss putting on great show.

Showing Us Her Alpha Bits
Sydney Windsor-Brookes wows her fans with yet another outstanding (or is that upstanding?) performance. What does that move do to a tuck, girl?

Ouch—Stubble!
Trojan Horse shares a personal moment with the audience. Isn't there an ointment for that sort of thing...?!



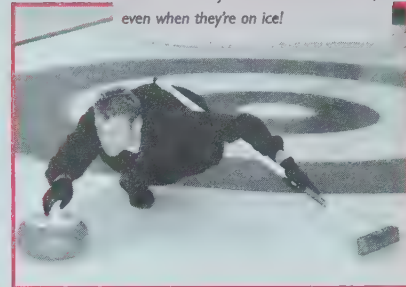
Spank The Skank?
Krys Styles shows Guenivere who's got the reddest surface... the paddle!



What? I Bought It All At The Where's Waldo Boutique
Avid player Zab shows off her best curling couture in-between games.

CURLING BONSPIEL GRANITE CLUB

Passing A Stone
Funny how some people—Maurizio included—can just look so damned hot, even when they're on ice!

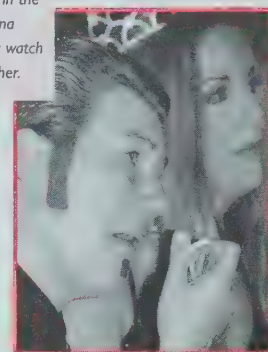


MR & MS HAPPENNINGS FINAL STEPDOWN GIO'S

Real Men Do Cry
Ray Banned joins in the flood with Breyanna Burlesque as they watch the tributes together.

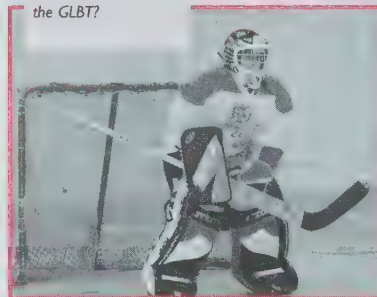


Tears And Tiara
Breyanna Burlesque gets misty as she recognizes the end of the run.



FLOOR HOCKEY RIVER OSBORNE COMMUNITY CENTRE

Puck Me!
The goalie is good to go—who needs the NHL when you have the GLBT?



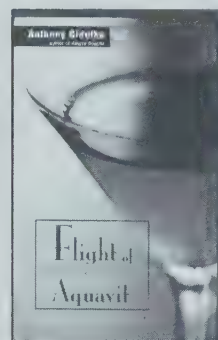
Blood, Sweat And... Queers?
Paul and Daryl get in on the action during the first game of the season.



EMPRESS SABRINA SEVILLE'S BIRTHDAY SHOW GIO'S

I Said I Wanted A Pearl Necklace!
Dwayne dishes out a fluffy facial to the birthday girl. Two "oil-based product" pies were auctioned off to the highest bidders in honour of the big event





Title: *Flight of Aquavit*
Author: Anthony Bidulka
From: *Insomniac Press*
Release Date: 2004

You've gotta hand it to Anthony Bidulka: the man is *dedicated*. Near the close of my review of his debut novel—the first in a then-proposed series—I asked the question “Now, how are things coming on book two, Mr. Bidulka?” That was June 2003, and in September 2004 he released the second installment in his Russell Quant mystery series, *Flight of Aquavit*.

Bidulka's first novel, the aptly titled *Amuse Bouche*, was clearly just a small sampling of the author's greater talents, ones finely showcased (and clearly more developed) in this latest offering. In *Flight of Aquavit*, the reader is reunited with Bidulka's signature character, Russell Quant, a thirty-something gay private eye based refreshingly in, of all places, Saskatoon, Saskatchewan. This time around, Quant is hired by a prominent closet-case accountant who is being blackmailed by a former trick—or so it seems. The case takes Bidulka's protagonist from the bright lights, not-so-big city of Saskatoon to the megawatt brilliance of New York and back again, in search of an elusive character self-christened “*Loverboy*”. Over the course of the tale, Bidulka treats the reader to enough red herrings with which to open a fishmarket and more than one writer's fair share of keen observations and appealing *bons mots*.

Having not previously been a fan of series work, in reading this follow-up novel I was surprised at how “comforting” it was to be reunited with familiar characters—almost like returning to school after summer break. Bidulka's standbys—the close friends and business associates of Russell Quant—are back once again, and stronger than ever in terms of character development. New characters, quite a few this time out, are added liberally but in sensible portions, and I'm pleased to see

that the “cast of thousands” I remarked on in my last review has been brought under control, to the benefit of both writer and reader. The addition of Quant's very Ukrainian mother is a particularly nice touch, as it affords Bidulka greater latitude for exposition on his protagonist's background without having to resort to the tiresome and formulaic means often employed for such purposes in the genre. While it's true that the use of a first-person protagonist can alleviate this to some degree (as is the case with Bidulka's Quant) that convention can also come across as overly “scripted” in the wrong hands. I'm pleased to report, however, that this author's hands are not only “right”, they are also deft and more than capable of pushing a story from point A to point Z. Bidulka's writing style is light and breezy, and there's a playfulness to it not generally found in crime fiction. This may well have something to do with the “scent of lavender” about the main character, but I think it's more likely just the author's way with words. I also love that Bidulka is confident enough as a writer to not only have his character think “Nuh-uh”, but to also leave it out on its own as a single-phrase paragraph. It's these little things that make the work intimate, fun and, above all, real.

As I mentioned in my previous review, the Quant series' regionality is a big selling feature. In both novels, even though Bidulka's main character heads off to

points more exotic than Saskatoon, they are never treated as more worthy, just different. Having visited the city on several occasions, I found myself drawn in by the mention of landmarks both familiar and not-so, and Bidulka's fondness for his hometown is evident throughout. With a two-novel precedent set, I think it would be unwise for Bidulka to move his prairie Poirot from such comfortable haunts—although given the history of both character and writer this seems reassuringly unlikely.

If there is one issue I might take with *Flight of Aquavit* it's that it seems to wind up rather abruptly, and in an almost-too-convenient fashion. After reading a tale rich in character and plot, Bidulka seems almost to cut the action short—not to the detriment of the book, mind you, but I found it a little jarring, particularly given the number of possible suspects who had not been exhausted by the time the denouement came. This is, however, a relatively small matter in the grand scheme of things, because *Flight of Aquavit* delivers on many other levels nonetheless. It is clear that both series and writer are developing in a very encouraging direction and I'm sure there's more to come from both Anthony Bidulka and Russell Quant.

P.S. What's this I hear about book three? Just keeping you on your toes, Mr. B.

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fall in this...

By Lincoln Phillip

Numerologically speaking, five is the number of change—so what better way to get you prepared for the season ahead, than narrowing down the fall trends to five easy pieces? Instead of just reading about my favourite looks for fall, I asked some of the nation's most fashion-forward retailers for their top five picks that every guy should have in his wardrobe for the season. For those who refuse to pay designer prices for the latest trends, I've listed off the top five trends of the season, so you can easily put the looks together in a way that will suit your clothing budget. In Calgary, the team at Leo Boutique and Henry on 4th say what's hot for the local boys; and on a national level, Holt Renfrew gives us its take on the trends. Read on!

Top Five Essential items you must have in your fall wardrobe:

Henry on 4th

1. Shearling by BOSS Orange Label
2. Diesel down puffer coat with hood
3. Low V-neck cardigan by HUGO Red Label
4. Casual army/flight pant by G-Star Raw
5. Bright high-top kicks like Adidas Originals 'Dakota' (bright lime green with albino python detail) or 'All-Round' (bright turquoise)

Leo Boutique

1. Low V-neck sweaters by 4 You
2. Tweed or check trousers by Fredrick Holms or Sixty
3. Clean "distress free" jeans by Earnest Sewn or Rock and Republic
4. Trim silhouette suits (narrow lapel and skinny trouser) by J Lindeberg
5. Any thing in shades of red, pink or purple, by Cinque or J Lindeberg

Holt Renfrew, across Canada

1. Fur-trimmed parka (fur trimmed *anything*)
2. The zip insert casual sport jacket by Hugo Boss
3. Catchphrase logo t-shirts by Marshall and Vox
4. Varsity stripe scarf by Paul Smith
5. Le Tigre Hat by Rod Keenan

◆ The looks for menswear this season takes a few cues from womenswear, but with (of course) a masculine appeal.

◆ Hot fabrics include, moleskin, velvet, leather, suede, tweeds (especially Donegal), shearlings, cashmere and corduroy.

◆ Patterns include tartan, Glen check, pinstripes, houndstooth and bold stripes on dress shirts.

◆ Colour gives black a run for its money this season, so expect to see the top five essentials in shades of fuchsia, plum, magenta, turquoise, chartreuse, navy, brown, grey and winter white.

◆ Don't be afraid to mix your fabrics and patterns, but *do* make sure that the colours blend, even if you are going for a little contrast.

The top five trends for Fall 2004-Winter 2005:

1 Lumberjack

This Canadiana backwoods style is hot, and seen in the work of designers such as DSquared 2, Pringle, Ralph Lauren and John Galiano. Fur trimmed *anything* (such as a parka or shearling) makes a great cover to complete the look. Plaid shirts, straight-legged jeans and slim-fitting sweaters will make you ask the next urban lumberjack, "How much wood can a woodsman chuck?"

Brit Style

Whether it's dressed up or messed up, the English influence is strong this season. Classic suiting worn with bold ties and striped shirts define the lord of the manor, while deep V-neck cardigans or sweaters are a great dressed up with a shirt or worn messy and sexy with nothing underneath, when you want to make a more daring statement. J Lindeberg's suits with narrow lapels can translate many Brit looks, from the Mod to the Teddy Boy. Take style tips from Moschino, Paul Smith, Dolce and Gabbana and Yves Saint Laurent.

The Sophomore

This guy is seeking out his own sense of style, but still makes the grade with the fashion police. The trend blurs the line between dressing up Brit style and future punk. The dressy bits include a tweed coat, varsity scarf or tailored pants mixed with street elements such as the graphic or catchphrase T, army flight pants and Adidas kicks. Viktor and Rolf, as well as Vivian Westwood, know how to style this in-between-trends trend.

After Hours

More punk than rock—with a touch of glitz but easy on the glam—this look takes its tips from the street. Sleek velvet or leather jackets worn with distressed jeans and a logo T-shirt trades on a bit of a punk look when accessorized with jewellery or chains; when topped with this season's puffer coat by Sixty paired with a V-neck sweater vest will make a stately statement this fall. Turn to Burberry, Jil Sander and Miu Miu for some finishing lessons.

Country Clubbin'

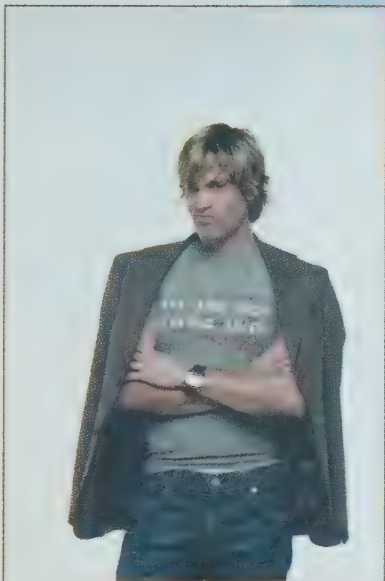
Another trend with a British accent: vintage fabrics, fine cashmeres and tweeds, silk scarves, velvet jackets, tailored pants—the look is casual but elegant. There are no jeans allowed at this country club. A slim-fit wool coat by Sixty paired with a V-neck sweater vest will make a stately statement this fall. Turn to Burberry, Jil Sander and Miu Miu for some finishing lessons.

Lincoln Phillip is a writer in pursuit of promoting those who bring beauty into the world. He contributes style-related topics to many magazines, and collaborates with Calgary's leading design firms. This style maven hopes to one day have lunch with Anna Wintour.

Handmade cable knit cardigan with fringed shawl collar, by Diesel, courtesy of Henry



Tweed blazer with embroidered crests by Scandinavia, worn over a slogan T by Taavo and Rock & Republic jeans, all from Leo Boutique. Diesel watch from Watch It!



Deep V merino wool cardigan By HUGO Red Label worn with customised paint-splattered jeans by Sacred Blue, available at Henry



Raspberry striped dress shirt and rep tie, both by Cinque, worn under a J Lindberg wool V-neck pullover, courtesy of Leo boutique



Special thanks to Jeff and Natalia at Henry and Jon and Sharla at Leo, for all their help with this shoot. Photos by David Crosson, shot on location at Urban Sky Studio

'Dakota' high tops with faux python trim by Adidas Originals, available at Henry



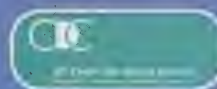
I love dick.

But I'm not gonna be one.

See, it's fun, and it's something that we all have in common. In fact, right now almost 75% of BC's gay men play safe, and that's great. But serious STD's like syphilis and back and on the rise, so don't let safe become a cliché. Take care. Get tested. And talk to your partners about it. After all, it's the way we play.

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IT'S THE WAY WE PLAY



Edmonton's 'rah' deal

By David King

The athletic moves of cheerleading tend to evoke two images: on one hand, the shapely teenaged bounce of yesteryear; on the other, the daredevil stunts of the film *Bring It On*. The latter is practically a training video for today's generation and, with the more recent release of *Bring It On Again*, it's safe to say that the days of the classic pom-pom girl are now—well... gimme an 'O' and a 'V' and an 'E' and an 'R'.



Members of PSE at the Prince and Princess Show; (from left) Lonny-jay, Ryan, Justin, Sjohn and Ryan

All this said, the enthusiasm behind cheerleading rests—or perhaps leaps—eternal. For obvious reasons, it's also ideal ground for a queer following, and if any team can "bring it on" these days, it's Canada's only queer-friendly cheerleaders, Pride Squad Edmonton.

"The goal is to promote pride and equality through sport," says co-captain Lonny-jay Renard. "There are not a lot of sport teams out there dedicated to that. I find that whole cliché of gay cheerleaders false—it's a sport that everyone can get involved in, and you meet people from all over."

Renard recently co-founded Pride Squad Edmonton—PSE for short—with his friend Mike Derrada after seeing the rise and fall of a similar squad from Vancouver. Rustling up seven members from all walks of life, the team kicked up its heels (literally) in 2003, sporting Edmonton's athletic colours of green and gold after some ambitious preparation.

It wasn't long before PSE increased in size and rose to new heights, raising enough funds to cheer in Pride parades in Alberta, B.C. and San Francisco while regularly assisting local community groups. In 2003, they even caught the Edmonton Mayor's Award for 'Best Walking Group', in the city's first officially proclaimed Pride parade.

"We kind of hog-tied people to help out at first," laughs Renard (known by many by his drag fundraising name, 'Charity Case'). "The last year was quite a big one, going to San Francisco. And we got so much out of it—there were pet names for the teams we've now adopted: Tranny, Tranny-In-Training and Tranny Wannabe."

All joking aside, PSE found widespread inspiration in the U.S., cheering right behind a San Fran squad five times its size and carrying the only Canadian flag out of North America's other community-based Pride cheer squads. All of the teams have united to form the Pride Cheerleading Association, and in due time, Renard hopes to see more Canadian squads emerge, stressing the importance of its spirit.

"We advertise ourselves as a cheer-for-life team," Renard comments, "with personalities that vary from really dedicated organizers to the frivolous. We're not out there to say 'Hey, we're gay', but to promote sport and fun."

This year, Renard is assisted by co-captain Kate McDonnell in putting everything together, including fundraisers and sponsorships through PSE's "Adopt-A-Cheerleader" Program, where businesses can make a taxable pledge to a cheerleader to help them with practice time, uniforms and a visit to Montréal's 2006 OutGames. As Renard mentions, the split between OutGames and the Gay Games has already had some impact:

"We were excited about the [2006 Gay] Games being in Montréal, so it was a little disappointing to hear about two events, since other [cheerleading] teams in the U.S. are going to Chicago. But we're still excited about Montréal, and depending on the timing and if we can work extra hard, we might be able to attend both."

PSE's organizational efforts already keep it active year 'round, with an "external" team that works behind the scenes and an "internal" squad that practices weekly. While volunteers coordinate everything from U of A campus events to cross-exchanges with

Edmonton's Pride Society, the cheerleaders are busy lifting and tumbling in stunts like the 'Pyramid', the 'Back Pack' and their signature, 'Basket Tosses'. It's all supervised by team coach Suzanne Hunka and choreographer Nathan Dickerson. "Everyone who wants to be there wants to learn," says Hunka, "and nobody has to worry about starting from perfection, since progression is the main motto."

Hunka, who worked with junior high cheerleaders for close to a decade, joined PSE last year and is excited to begin coaching, particularly given PSE's support for the community. As she and Renard agree, cheerleading's shift towards acrobatics over the years has a lot to do with today's athletic and entertainment demands. "I think it started while gymnastics evolved," says Hunka, "with American limits pushing harder and harder—the same way gymnastics itself evolved from the horse."

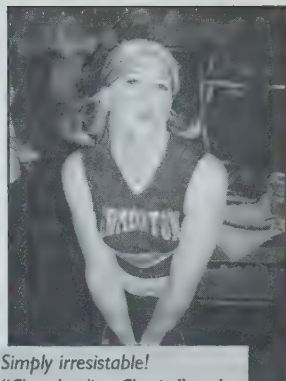
Combining acrobatics, dance moves, gymnastics and pom routines, the squad's work culminates in results for both on-site events and more mobile marches like the annual HIV/AIDS Walk, when the team carries 'Spirit Buckets' to raise dollars. To meet PSE's demands, Renard emphasizes that the group is open to all kinds of volunteers. Aerobics, gymnastics or cheerleading experience is an asset at try-outs, but the group also needs administrative support to keep things "base-tumbling."

With at least four fundraisers planned for this season, there seems to be enough cheer to go around, and on the spot, only one comes to mind for Renard: "Hey, hey you know, let's make some noise! Green and gold are number one!"

Who ever said cheers were grammatically correct?

Tryouts for PSE take place in January. For info or to get involved, contact edm_pride_squad@hotmail.com or call (780) 708-1649. The PSE website, located at www.geocities.com/pridesquadedm/ also features the latest info, a community bulletin board and a photo album of the team, including "The Hall of Asses". ▼

David King is a freelance journalist currently residing in Edmonton. A writer, performer and director, he is the co-founding Artistic Director of Montreal's OUT Productions.



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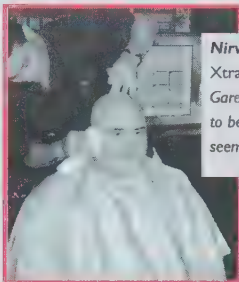
More Spandex Than A Production of Cats
The 'cop' element of Cops for Cancer.



You're Gonna Love This One: Two Bald Guys Walk Out Of A Bar
A newly shorn Vancouver City Councillor Tim Stevenson chats it up with fellow chrome-dome Mayor Larry Campbell.



Nirvana Is Near Xtra! West editor Gareth Kirkby appears to be so focused it seems he might levitate.



SMIRNOFF

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The Calm Before...
Daxx and Ambrosia Devour patiently await the results of the Smirnoff Ice Queen Competition.

...The Storm
Daxx takes the title—much to the obvious delight of the gathered supporters.

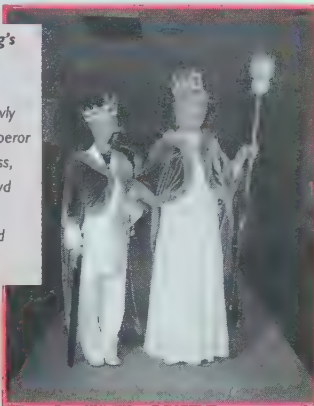


VANCOUVER

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DAYS INN

Everything's All White Now
Surrey's newly minted Emperor and Empress, Martin Mayd Storm and Taylor Mayd Storm.

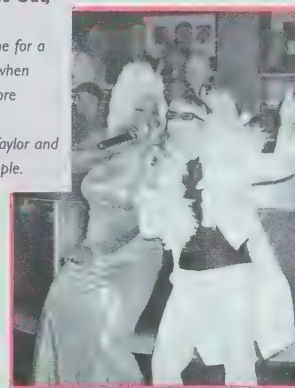


Beauty And The...
Beauty
Luscious leatherman Rob, with pal Justine Tyme, at the Mr. and Ms Gay event.

MR & MS

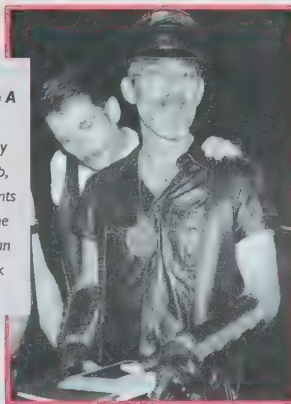
CELEBRITIES

Check This Tune Out, Air Canada!
Who needs Celine for a corporate jingle when you've got far more fabulous folks around—Willie Taylor and English, for example.

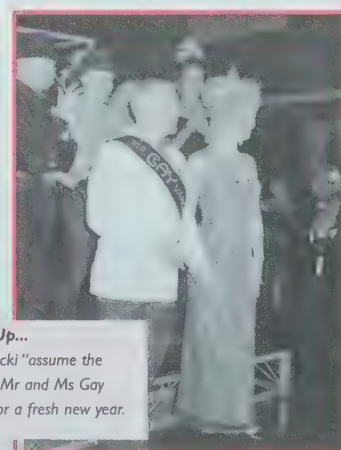


Speaking English
looking very regal indeed, Jose, Empress I of San Francisco, stops to chat with English, a delegate at the Surrey Coronation.

I'm Just Happy It Didn't Come With A Crown!
Rob Pont, looking very fine in his leather cap, holds the acoutrements of the Rita Rhinestone Pegasus Humanitarian Award, as Don Kopek looks on.



Stepping Down...
waiting in the wings, previous titleholders Ruby Stone and Vince Rexas prepare for the inevitable.



Stepping Up...
Barry and Vicki "assume the position" as Mr and Ms Gay Vancouver for a fresh new year.

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Photos By: Barry Piersdorff

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HOROSCOPE



We have some incumbents to unseat this November. Who will get your support when a platform of planets stumps through Libra, Scorpio and Sagittarius? Choose your constituencies, get Out and vote. Join a party and party on, comrade!

ARIES (MARCH 21 - APRIL 20)

Someone you know really does know exactly what you need. Who could that be? Play hide and seek throughout November with a certain special someone, proud Ram—keep searching every nook and cranny. Before you know it, things will heat up and Mars will enter passionate Scorpio mid-month and turn love to lust. Will it last? Let's hope so! Pass the hot sauce, hottie.

TAURUS (APRIL 21 - MAY 21)

The stress may ratchet up from various quarters but queer Bulls will be as cool as cucumbers throughout November. The secret is to channel anything annoying into your work. You'll have ample energy combined with great powers of concentration now, so don't waste it! Bury yourself in minutia, if necessary, and slowly dig yourself out; by mid-month you will begin to see the sky.

GEMINI (MAY 22 - JUNE 21)

Forgo convention this November; pink Twin, as there will be too much happening and too many temptations to keep you on a conservative path. Good! Boundless optimism will get you into all sorts of mischief, if you're lucky—but all play and no work will eventually take a toll. Mid-month you'll yearn to make a good impression on the job. Why not make it in your seat cushion as you nurse your hangover?

CANCER (JUNE 22 - JULY 23)

There is something to be said for stability. There is also something to be said for shocking change. Gay Crabs, who gravitate to the familiar, will find themselves navigating a changing landscape throughout November. Prepare to put out a few raging fires when long dormant issues charge and ignite. Pursue a new domestic policy, which includes full partnership benefits.

LEO (JULY 24 - AUGUST 23)

How long will you allow others to take advantage of your good nature and generosity? Proud Lions will get sick and tired of all those campaign promises and yearn for a regime change. So speak up and say what's on your mind. Jupiter will ensure that nothing you say will rub others the wrong way. With practice, you will rub others just right, so get lots and lots of practice this November...

VIRGO (AUGUST 24 - SEPTEMBER 23)

Covetous queer Virgins could get all that they need and want this November... and so much more. There'll be a Wilde constituency that will campaign for your affection, but before your greed overtakes your common sense, think about what is really important and valuable to you. Are you willing to compromise yourself for a barrel of pork and block of votes? Hell yes!

LIBRA (SEPTEMBER 24 - OCTOBER 23)

This month, all eyes will be upon you and you will be something to see. Gay Libras will windsail to the centre of attention as November rolls out the red carpet and have quarts of charm, panache and charisma. But don't pour it out all at once: as the planets move on, you'll become less the ingenue and more the Wizard of Ooze. Make your mark early in the month before it becomes an oil slick.

SCORPIO (OCTOBER 24 - NOVEMBER 22)

If you feel an emptiness, fill your cup with good gay Outreach this November: Who says that proud Scorps are selfish bastards? Well, some say that, but prove them wrong! I happen to know that, as you selflessly donate your efforts, Wilde Jupiter will be lurking in the background, poised to deliver you a huge reward. Yeah, it's true: some bastards do have all the luck!

SAGITTARIUS (NOVEMBER 23 - DECEMBER 22)

There are those gay Archers who know how to nimbly balance work and play. Alas, there are also quite a few who waste their best efforts on the job and crawl home each night to recharge. November will be the month to take a break from the grind and create a members-only club for fun, frolic and general mayhem. Exactly which member do you have in mind...?

CAPRICORN (DECEMBER 23 - JANUARY 19)

Prepare for a November filled with high-level meetings and a chance to rub assorted elbows until they chafe. Pink Caps will have the most moxie early in the month, so don't be shy around bosses. You'll need to plant seeds for future success while you are fertile and the time is ripe. By the 23rd, your heart will begin to waver and your eyes wander. Someone else may then tend your garden.

AQUARIUS (JANUARY 21 - FEBRUARY 19)

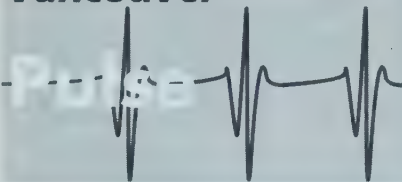
Aqueerians will be poised for a global campaign this November, only waiting for enough votes to get them to the gate. Plan your course so that you can learn as much as possible in your travels. You will hanker for adventure and excitement and you will find it; however, by the 23rd, you may find that intrigue is less intriguing than you expected. Decompress closer to home.

PISCES (FEBRUARY 20 - MARCH 20)

How is it hanging, Chad? This November, Guppies will be consumed with passion and find very creative ways of locating, harnessing and releasing it. Of course, some prefer to stay harnessed... You'll have opportunities galore to meet and greet. By the 23rd, you will happily toot your own horn as well as the horns of a few new pals. Those are horns... aren't they?!

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By Outlooks Staff

for a rendition of *A Midsummer Night's Dream*, but then again, this ain't Theatre Under The Stars. If you need more info, Faerie can be caught on the web at www.balletbc.com; tix at www.ticketmaster.com or (604) 280-3311.

Time Flies Where they hell did the 20th century go? Just seemed to zip by, didn't it? Oh, well, no sense worrying about it—especially when you can move forward with the 21st Century Flea Market. This 175-table extravaganza of shabby chic, '50s kitsch, collectibles, memorabilia, vintage kitchenalia and "deluxe 20th-century junkie" runs Sunday, November 14 from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. at the Croatian Cultural Centre (3250 Commercial Drive). Parking is free and admission (charged only to those over the age of thirteen) is a very reasonable toonie. Participating charities are Forgotten Felines and the Developmental Disabilities Association. For more info contact Renee Lafontaine at (604) 980-3159 or e-mail 21cflea@telus.net.

The Butler Did Who? It's not too late to catch the live-action fun of *Madame Soupie and the Odyssey Murder*, a comic thriller set in Vancouver's gay community. The show continues November 4 through 6 at the Pacific Theatre (1440 West 12th Avenue) at 8 p.m.. Admission is \$15 and tickets/info can be had by calling (604) 523-2734.

Get Out Gayway offers a lot of great means for getting involved in the community, only two of which are the 40/50 Group and Solace. 40/50 is for men in their—wild guess?—40s and 50s and the group meets every second and fourth Tuesday from 7 to 9 p.m. Solace is geared towards those who want to develop plans for dealing with suicide and loneliness, and runs

Wing It The jokes are just too easy to make—suffice it to say that you know you wanna see it. Ballet British Columbia's production of John Alleyne's *The Faerie Queen* runs November 4, 5, 6, with shows nightly at 8 p.m. in the fabulous (where else?) Queen E. Theatre. Sure, it might be a little chilly out

every second Wednesday from 7 to 9 p.m. Both group meetings take place at Gayway (913 Davie Street) and admission is free. For more info, visit www.gayway.com or call (604) 682-3900 to register.

Be There The International Transgender Day of Remembrance takes place Saturday November 20th and the planning committee meets every week leading up to the event. If you'd like to participate or learn more about this occasion, contact Tami at (604) 215-3882 or e-mail transgender@shaw.ca.

It's Kinda Like Being A Debutante The Women's Coming Out Group (trans inclusive, dontcha know!?) runs every Thursday from 6 to 9 p.m. through December 2nd. This is a great way to get out (literally!) and meet new people. To register or to get more information call (604) 684-5307

Look Again The Charles H. Scott Gallery is the venue for General Idea Editions 1967-1995, an exhibition of the Toronto-based collective of the same name (minus 'Editions 1967-1995', of course). The show, which features a good deal of queer content, runs November 7 at the C.H.S. Gallery at Emily Carr Institute of Art & Design (1399 Johnston Street) on Granville Island. For more info, visit www.eciad.bc.ca/chscott.

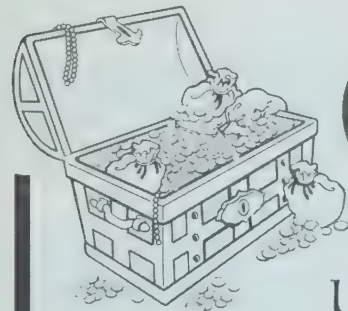
To have your community event listed in Pulse, please submit your information by the 15th of the month prior to issue date. E-mail: main@outlooks.ca. Toll-free fax: 1-877-885-6657.

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Community Chest

Upcoming Events:

Monies Raised Last Month:

November 13: 5th Anniversary of the Prairie Fairies Fowl Supper at the Roundhouse Community Centre. Silent Auction, Dinner & show - Sold Out. Proceeds to benefit Dr. Peter Centre and A Loving Spoonful.

November 5: The "Doxa" Documentary Film Festival fundraiser event will take place at Heritage Hall 7:30pm. Snacks, Bar and Silent Auction, all for \$30.

November 28: The "Bubble Party" at the Oasis pub, in honour of the Sandwich Board. Proceeds to benefit the Kidney Research Foundation.

* **AI Roadburg Foundation** raised \$25,000 to benefit the Dr. Peter Centre.

* **"Art For Life"** event raised \$153,000 in aid of The Vancouver Friends For Life Society

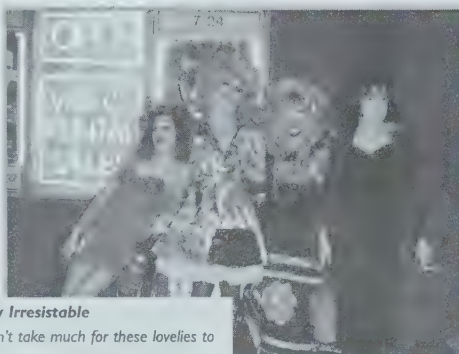
Thanks to the Vancouver Community for your support!

To pre-promote your fundraiser or report on monies raised in the next issue of *Outlooks Vancouver* email: main@outlooks.ca or fax info toll free to 1-877-885-6657

This Monthly Community Feature Brought to you by:



COMBINATION TOUGH DRAG

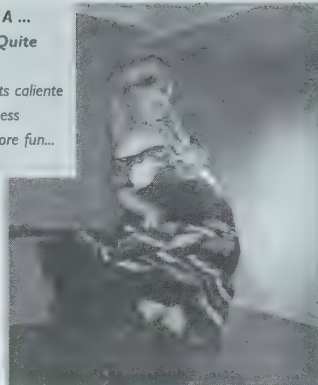


Simply Irresistible

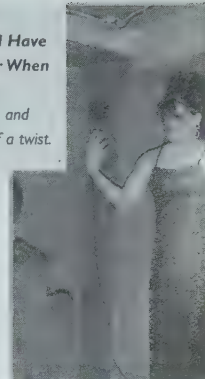
It doesn't take much for these lovelies to prove that a girl can stop traffic at any age! Pictured from left are Betty Bijou, Thelma Toronto CBT, Sheneeda Razor and Babushka Parkway.

Planning an event in Toronto?
Contact Cap at 1-888-228-1157 and he'll see about covering it in Out & About.
Photos Provided By Tom Ivison

Dude Looks Like A ...
Well, We're Not Quite Sure!
Sheneeda Razor gets caliente for the camera. Guess blondes do have more fun...

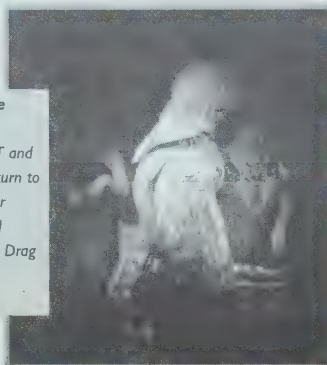


This Is What Reese Witherspoon Should Have Done With Her Hair When She Went Brunette
Elsie BO does 'tall, dark and handsome' with a bit of a twist.



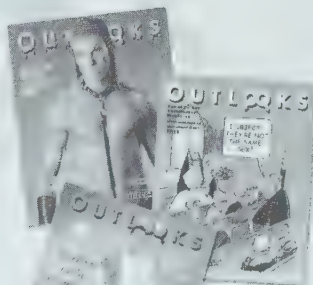
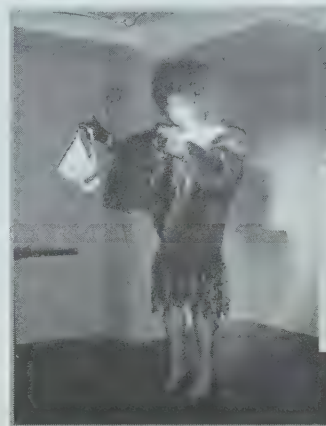
Step Out Of The Light

Thelma Toronto CBT and Sheneeda Razor return to "the dark side" after hashing it out—and winning—the Tough Drag competition.



I thought There Was A Comb In Here

The very comely Anita Modet indulges in a bit of show-and-tell with the audience.



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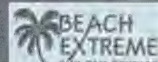
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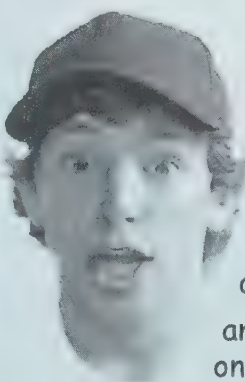


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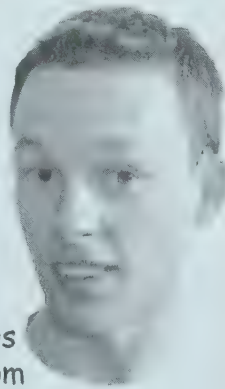
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Dear FREDDY

Dear Freddy,

Last month I was at the Barracks Bathhouse in Toronto giving head to this guy. After the first hour or so, he asked if I liked poppers. I replied, "Yes", and he said, "You'll love this". He sprayed something from an aerosol can onto a rag, placed it in my mouth and told me to suck back. The first time it really didn't work but the second time the 'spray' was ice cold and I had to fight to stay conscious, I saw red and black and I had visions of blacking out and ending up at a white slave farm or locked in his basement for the next couple of years... At the time both options seemed kinda hot, but I realize it wasn't very smart. I know I deserve a lecture on the dangers of anonymous sex, etc. but what do you think was in the can and how dangerous is it?

Thanks,

SM#2

Dear SM#2,

Geez, thanks a lot! I'm seen in public snuffing around the hindquarters of a few pals and all of a sudden I'm an expert on strange smells?! How dare you! Actually, there's something about your letter that compels me to offer some advice—perhaps it's the bit where you say "after the first hour or so" when discussing the giving of head, and I just can't resist a good ol' fashioned piggy... Good Lord, SM#2, what was going on there? One of you is either really good or really bad at that particular activity, but more power to you for showing that kind of dedication: most people can't last as long as a commercial break during QAF. (I bet if you went on *Survivor* there isn't a man or woman alive who would vote you off, you talented little leech, you!) Anyway, back to the mystery spray. I know I said I wanted to give you some advice but, really, how the hell should I know what he sprayed on that rag?! Maybe his body produces some kind of crazy knockout pee that he has put into aerosol cans at a factory—I don't know! Maybe it was Pam (did it smell buttery?), or Right Guard (did it smell jock-y?)—who can say at this point? My guess is that the substance in question really is *not* meant to go into the human body, but that body *does* belong to you (or whomever you "loan" it to at the tubs), so I honestly can't say much above and beyond the usual cautions. As for that whole "slave" thing, I've got a yard full of poop that needs picking up and a water dish in serious need of some scrubbing; you game for it? I'll pee on you, if it'll help... Sorry I can't be of more help identifying your trick's secret knockout potion; if anyone out there can shed some light, please let me (us) know.

Lots of love,

Freddy

Dear Freddy,

My boyfriend and I broke up about two months ago and I'm going mental. Neither one of us can afford to move out right now and we're still sleeping in the same bed. The thing that's driving me nuts is my ex, who instigated the breakup, sleeps really close with his boner poking me in the back. I don't know if that means anything but makes me wonder if it's really over. Should I talk to him about it?

Sleepless in St. Albert

Dear Sleepless,

I wouldn't put too much stock in your ex's "stalk", as it were; I mean, if the breeze blows just the right way I get more wood than Weyerhaeuser—but that doesn't mean I'm turned on by anything other than the wind on my privates. See what I'm saying? Some guys just get hard (bless 'em) for no reason. Period. If you have a problem with it, I suggest you either change positions with him or turn yourself around so his boner's poking you in the *front* for a change. If it's over, hon, it's over; I suggest both of you start saving your pennies so you can move out and get on with it.

Fred

P.S. It's not really my business and it may well have been a gift, but the embossed Tiffany stationery you used for your note may be an indicator that your financial priorities are a bit scrambled—particularly if neither of you can afford to move out. Just a thought...

Hugs,

F. ▼



Write to me, Dears

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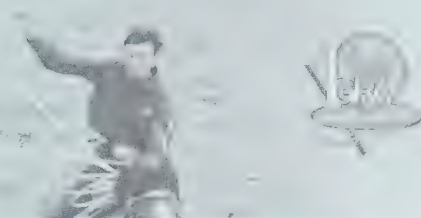


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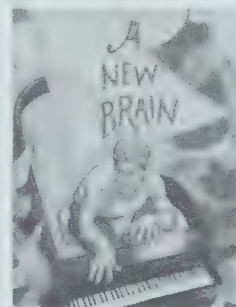
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DON'T YOU WISH?

Oliver

This Scorpio is a stylist at Calgary's Great Head and Body Salon. Oliver's happy that winter is here because he loves skiing and playing in the snow.



Photographs by Catherine Scott

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By David Crosson

Film



Director: C. Jay Scott
From: TLA Releasing
Running time: 107 minutes
Release Date: 2004

It might sound like I'm joking, but I think the romantic comedy *Latter Days* is the closest thing to a gay "chick flick" I have ever seen. And I don't mean that in a derogatory way. Much like the pumpkin fudge that was kitchen-tested for last month's issue of *Outlooks*, *Latter Days* is nutty, a wee bit too sweet (occasionally a fine trait in both candy and movies) and pretty much irresistible. After strolling through rack after rack of films that wore their angst as noticeably as the gay/lesbian stickers on their covers, I settled on what I thought would be appropriately

light fare for a cool fall night. In that regard, my choice was a good one, as *Latter Days* never descends into maudlin hand-wringing no matter how bleak the circumstances.

It's the story of Christian, a naughty gay party boy, and Aaron "Elder" Davis, a Mormon missionary who comes to live in his West Hollywood apartment complex, which is essentially a kind of "Melrose Place Lite". Christian, a carnal creature who has notched his bedpost so many times it's a wonder he hasn't sawed right through it, takes an interest in Davis and his group, initially mistaking them for a crew of frat boys. When he discovers that the foursome across the way are missionaries, Christian bets his co-workers that he can lead one astray—with proof—for the princely sum of fifty dollars. Trouble is, over the course of his maneuvers, Christian begins to have feelings for Davis, feelings that are mutual despite the prohibitions of the young Mormon's faith. What follows is alternately harrowing and heartwarming, a journey that ultimately proves to be worth making for both the characters and the viewer.

As an "alternative cinema" picture, *Latter Days* succeeds chiefly on quality: it features an MTV-generation energy but still maintains focus throughout; sleeker than an indie but without the visual insincerity of a studio picture. Writer-director C. Jay Cox employs a bright storybook palette to keep the mood upbeat and engaging, and contrasts the cartoon-hued settings of L.A. with the dull, monochromatic Mormon world to great, yet

subtle, effect.

Latter Days also boasts some genuinely funny lines and features dialogue that's both snappy and believable—a rarity in these days of *Gilmore Girls* and a post-Sorkin *West Wing*. This is not to say that the film is perfection itself, but one can forgive the odd melodramatic moment and stretch of credibility as they occur in the context of the story. For example, Christian and Davis' first encounter is more than just a bit glib, but the underlying awkwardness takes enough gloss off its surface to make it work. Likewise, their discussion of sexuality in a Salt Lake City motel room tends to be a bit overwrought but it delivers the goods nonetheless, moving both the story and the characters forward at an appropriate speed. In both cases, it is the admirable work of the film's two lead actors that saves *Latter Days* from straying towards self-indulgence.

Overall, performances throughout the film are easy and quite believable, particularly in the case of newcomer Steve Sandvoss, who makes his debut in the film as Elder Davis. Wes Ramsey is equally enjoyable, bringing a subtle depth to his hedonistic Christian even in pre-revelation party mode. The always-excellent Mary Kay Place is outstanding in her supporting role as Aaron's conflicted mother, Sister Davis, bringing a note of sympathy to what could easily be played as a completely unsympathetic character. The rest of the cast—including Joseph Gordon-Levitt (of 3rd Rock fame) and Buffy's Amber Benson—is

uniformly strong, with the possible exception of Jacqueline Bisset.

Though she "manages" quite nicely in her role as an Auntie Mame-ish restaurateur, Bisset seems always to rely on the idea that having a genuine English accent in Hollywood automatically qualifies one as a great actor. *Latter Days*, and a host of other films, proves that this just isn't the case. I'm not saying that J.B. is a terrible actor; it's just that I think chances are slim she'll hear "Paging Dame Bisset, Dame Jacqueline Bisset" over the p.a. system of a Four Seasons hotel anytime soon. 'Nuff said?

Though I hate making such comparisons, *Latter Days* reminded me a lot of Greg Berlanti's *The Broken Hearts Club* with its unassuming combination of humour and warmth. I love the fact that the unlikely romantic pairing is just likely enough to work, and that C. Jay Cox and his cast seems to take great pleasure in convincing us of this. With a critical eye I can say that the ending is corny and treacle-sweet, but with a human heart I can also say that it was exactly what I wanted to see at the end of this particular tale.

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By Roy Heale

A mid-winter break in the California sunshine will be a welcome vacation in the next few months. Southern California's largest GLBT community can be found in West Hollywood—a city of 36,000 people (mostly gay), a place world-famous for its nightlife, fashion, restaurants and diversity. Icons like the Sunset Strip, Melrose Avenue, Rodeo Drive and the Pacific Design Center are only a few of the highlights that continue to attract visitors from around the world.

Located in the very heart of West Hollywood is the San Vicente Inn and Resort, a place to stay in a quiet tropical setting but only a few steps from the rapidly beating heart of the city's nightlife. The

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Owned and operated by gay men, the twenty-nine rooms and suites provide a variety of choices in amenities, size and location. Prices are from USD\$99 per night, depending on the season. A buffet-style continental breakfast is offered from 8 a.m. to 10 a.m. daily and rooms have

kitchenettes with refrigerators and microwaves. Add to this the fitness room, hot tub, lounge areas and firepit and you have a complete resort atmosphere. Low season is November to February, making

this a perfect escape for snowbirds craving some sunshine and a fun break from the mid-winter 'blahs'. West Hollywood and the San Vicente make the best tonic on the California Gold Coast.



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Images of the San Vicente Inn & Resort (from top): the exterior of one of the properties; a view of the pool; and poolside on a sunny day

A Gay B&B with the Pleasures of a Resort

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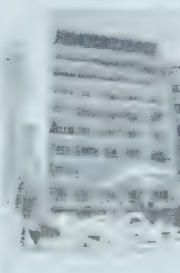
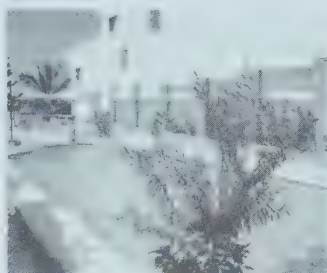
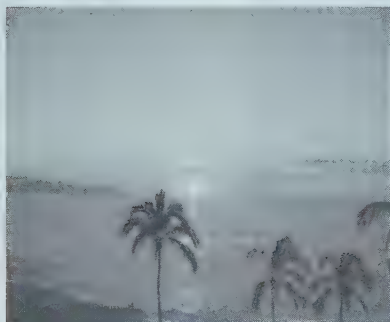
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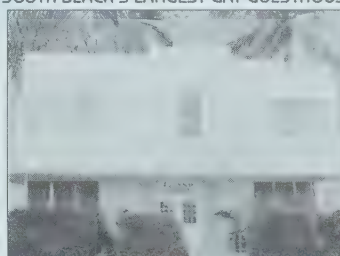
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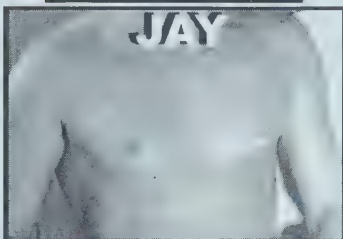
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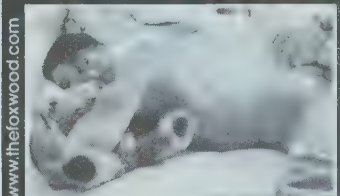
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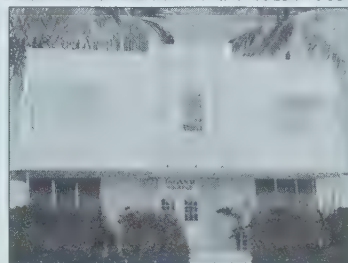
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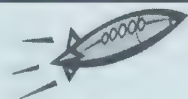
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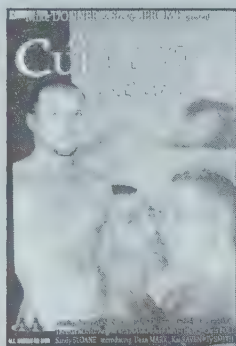
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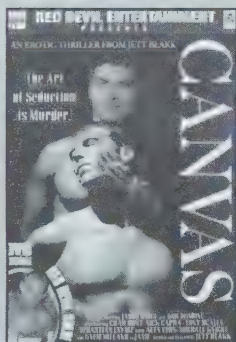
Gay Teachers and Friends
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A Current Affair From: All American Men



Canvas From: Red Devil Entertainment



Featuring: Kent Larson, Jake Hansen, Sean Kelley, Dante Foxx, Thomas Bond, Angelo Bestiamo, Jake Matthews, Chris Bolt, Sandy Sloane, Dean Marx, Kai Raven, Ty Smith

Running Time: 115 minutes

From the very beginning it's obvious that the Current Affairs Bookstore is a little different. When author Dylan Davis pays a visit he becomes the object of desire of the store's owner, Quentin Sharp. While he is browsing the bookshelves, Dylan picks up a copy of *Maurice* by E.M. Forster, and, as he reads the first chapter, he begins to daydream of the hot sex that Maurice and Scutter enjoy. Actors Sean Kelley and Angelo Bestiamo bring this fantasy to life, and their hot bodies and rugged appearance do more than justice to Forster's tale. After all, "actions do speak louder than words"... Once he recognizes the author, Quentin interrupts Dylan's fantasy and invites him to a men's reading group that night at the store. Dylan is interested but doesn't commit to attending, which leaves Quentin feeling a little embarrassed.

Elsewhere, another customer is browsing through an art book of male nudes when he dreams he is right in the middle of the photographer's studio. Hot Latino Dante Foxx is the photographer and Chris Bolt is his naked subject. Dante shows that Latino lovers are the best and Chris proves a perfect ten cannot be resisted even by a cute young daydreamer. This hot threesome could have been inspiration for a book all by itself!

Meanwhile, Quentin finds Dylan's book in the store and, surprisingly, it's entitled *A Current Affair*. As Quentin reads the story he, too, slips into a fantasyland and lives out the author's words in his own world. *A Current Affair* comes alive and Quentin

enjoys every moment, right up to the final climax and enjoyable ending of Dylan's story.

At the reading that night, Quentin decides that Dylan's book will be the topic for the evening. What a surprise for the group of literary men when the author himself walks into the room. This time, everyone's fantasy has a touch of reality and the group orgy that follows makes for a night to remember. The members of this reading group should have been photographed for their own erotic art book!

Finally, Quentin is alone with his author hero and Dylan is quite happy with this perfect ending, finding himself at a loss for words but ready for some hot action.

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RATING: OUT OF FIVE POSSIBLE STARS

MUSIC: ★★★★★

BODIES: ★★★★★

ACTION SCENES: ★★★★★

SET: ★★★★★

STORY: ★★★★★

Featuring: Jason Ridge, Rob Romani, Chad Hunt, Nick Capra, Tony Scalia, Sebastian Jaymz, Alex Leon, Michael Knight, Kylie Ireland

Running Time: 105 minutes

Up-and-coming young ad executive Ross is in big trouble when he blows a very important campaign for one of the agency's major clients. It takes a different kind of blowing for Ross' boss to keep the client happy and allow Ross a second chance to develop a new ad campaign. Nick Capra uses a long, hard "persuasion technique" on the client, Tony Scalia, who finally submits and agrees to let Ross have the weekend to develop a new idea. Ross is relieved not to lose his job but realizes he has a big challenge ahead of him and only two days to come up with a solution.

When he arrives home in the afternoon, he is surprised by a handsome, rugged stranger sitting in his living room. The man, Rob Romani, reminds Ross that he is his brother-in-law, visiting for a few days. Ross' wife Jamie had told him of the visit but with all the stress at work it had slipped his mind completely. As it turns out, Rob is very friendly and sympathetic to Ross' big problem and the challenge that lies ahead for the weekend. It seems as though Rob would like to help relieve some of the stress but Ross doesn't understand his overtures...

Jamie, the dutiful wife, arrives home with a take-out dinner and the three of them proceed to drink a lot of beer and reminisce while Ross learns more about his overly affectionate brother-in-law. Soon, Jamie goes to bed early and the two men continue to drink some more beer. Ultimately, though, Ross resists the advances from Rob and joins his wife in their bedroom.

As the weekend unfolds, Ross gives into temptation and submits to a new

experience that he finds far too enjoyable. His brother-in-law is very persuasive and, when Jamie leaves the two of them alone, it's time for "true confessions". Ross' newfound freedom is inspired by the view from the living room window, which reveals the two guys in the apartment across the laneway engaged in hot sex (especially as one of them is Chad Hunt showing off his twelve inches, which could be seen from almost any distance!).

The unusual plot twist in this movie reveals a hidden motive for this family reunion and Ross discovers a new life ahead of him with Rob playing a major role.

Review Sponsored by Rainbow Pride Resource Centre

2nd Floor 1229 16th Avenue SW, Calgary

(403) 266-5685 Email: rpriide@telus.net

RATING: OUT OF FIVE POSSIBLE STARS

MUSIC: ★★★★★

BODIES: ★★★★★

ACTION SCENES: ★★★★★

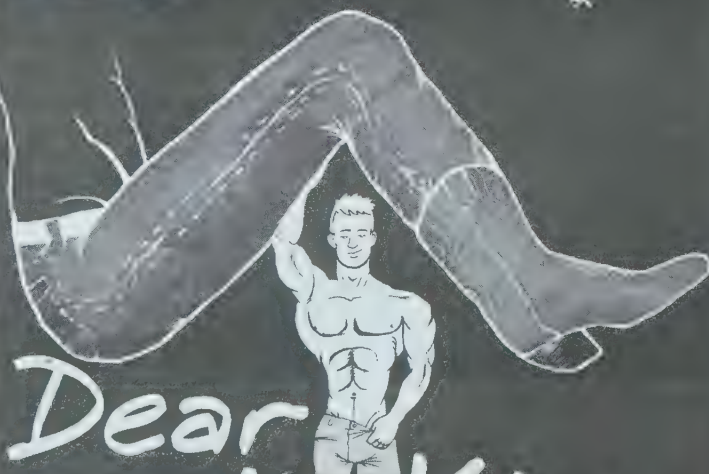
SET: ★★★★★

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7 Queer as Folk Night Come relax with friends in a smoke free space	8 Queer as Folk Night Come relax with friends in a smoke free space	9 Bi - Night Get Educated about bi issues!! Everyone Welcome!	10 Trans Night Get Educated about trans issues!! Everyone Welcome!	11 Boyz Night Girlz welcome! Drop In, Meet Your Hosts, Get involved!	12 <i>Bring your favourite CD & Snack to share!</i>	13
14 Queer as Folk Night Come relax with friends in a smoke free space	15 Queer as Folk Night Come relax with friends in a smoke free space	16 Book/Magazine Article Night Bring your favourite book or article to share	17 Movie Night Popcorn/soft drinks For sale!	18 Girlz Night Girlz welcome! Funnest Coming Out Stories & Snacks!	19 Games Night Bring your favorite board game to share!	20 <i>Amy Bishop in concert!</i> <i>PRISM</i> 10524 - 101 St. 9 pm
21 Queer as Folk Night Come relax with friends in a smoke free space	22 Queer as Folk Night Come relax with friends in a smoke free space	23 Bi - Night Get Educated about bi issues!! Everyone Welcome!	24 Trans Night Get Educated about trans issues!! Everyone Welcome!	25 Boyz Night Girlz welcome! Funnest Coming Out Stories & Snacks!	26 <i>Co-ordinating Volunteers for World Beat Dance Come and Help!</i>	27 <i>Pride Centre World Beat Dance</i> <i>Inglewood Hall</i> <i>With Pride Squad</i> 12515 - 116 Ave
28 Queer as Folk Night Come relax with friends in a smoke free space	29 Queer as Folk Night Come relax with friends in a smoke free space	30 Book/Magazine Article Night Bring your favourite book or article to share				

December 2004

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
			1 Movie Night Popcorn/soft drinks For sale!	2 Girlz Night Boyz welcome! Love to Hate the L Word? Watch, Debate!	3 Games Night Bring your favorite board game to share!	4
5	6 Queer as Folk Night Come relax with friends in a smoke free space	7 Bi - Night Get Educated about bi issues!! Everyone Welcome!	8 Trans Night Get Educated about trans issues!! Everyone Welcome!	9 Boyz Night Girlz welcome! Love to Hate Will + Grace? Watch, Debate!	10 <i>Bring your favourite CD & Snack to share!</i>	11
12	13 Queer as Folk Night Come relax with friends in a smoke free space	14 Book/Magazine Article Night Bring your favourite book or article to share	15 Movie Night Popcorn/soft drinks For sale!	16 Girlz Night Boyz welcome! Diversity & Activism With Lenore Lemay	17 <i>Co-ordinating Volunteers for World Beat Dance Come and Help!</i>	18 <i>Pride Centre Christmas Dance Ingleswood Hall With Pride Squad 12515 - 116 Ave</i>
19	20 Queer as Folk Night Come relax with friends in a smoke free space	21 December Drop-In planning Open to everyone interested!	22 Trans Night Get Educated about trans issues!! Everyone Welcome!	23 Boyz Night Girlz welcome! Diversity & Activism	24 Christmas Pot Luck <i>Bring something to share!</i>	25 PFLAG Event! <i>Details available soon!</i>
26	27 Queer as Folk Night Come relax with friends in a smoke free space	28 Book/Magazine Article Night Bring your favourite book or article to share	29 Movie Night Popcorn/soft drinks For sale!	30 Girlz Night Boyz welcome! Christmas Board Games & Snacks	31 Games Night Bring your favorite board game to share!	